

Shultz rejects Israeli criticism

TEL AVIV (R) — U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz Wednesday rejected criticism by Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir over his meeting last week with two Palestinian-American activists. Shultz, interviewed in Israel Radio by Israeli journalists in Washington, said he met professors Edward Said and Ibrahim Abu Lughod, members of the Palestine National Council (PNC), to advance Middle East peace efforts. "Both of these men are American citizens, and somehow for me as secretary of state to get caught in the position of 'I'm not allowed to talk to American citizens' is just beyond the pale," (unacceptable), he said. "But that's not the main point. The main point is that being very firm about the PLO, nevertheless Palestinians are part of the peace issue, and you've got to find a way to be in contact with them." The State Department said Wednesday Shultz had no plans to initiate a meeting with Palestinians when he returns to the region on a new peace mission next week. But Shultz remains ready to talk with Palestinians if they choose to see him, spokesman Charles Redman said.



Jordan Times

An independent Arab political daily published by the Jordan Press Foundation
جوردان تيمز يومية سياسية تصدر بالانجليزية عن المؤسسة الصحفية الاردنية الراي

Mubarak: Qadhafi is bluffing

CAIRO (R) — Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak said Wednesday a pledge from Libyan leader Muammar Qadhafi to withdraw his forces from the border with Egypt was a bluff. "Qadhafi is bluffing the Libyan people," Mubarak told reporters in an unexpected verbal attack. "I warn him, I warn him strongly against foul play. I know all his tricks." Qadhafi Monday announced he would withdraw all Libyan forces from the border and allow Egyptians freely in and out of Libya. He added he would keep opposing the Mubarak government, but not militarily. "He says he decided to withdraw troops from the border, while he has no forces on our border. There are also no Egyptian troops on the border," said Mubarak, after a visit to Giza, west of Cairo. Mubarak's remarks contrasted with those made Tuesday by Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Boutros Ghali, who welcomed the Libyan promise of a unconditional pullback. "Massing troops on the border is outdated (strategy) since World War I. There is no such a thing today," Mubarak said.

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Volume 13 Number 3745

AMMAN THURSDAY-FRIDAY MARCH 31-APRIL 1, 1988, SHABAN 12-13, 1408

Price: Jordan 100 fils; Syria 1 pound; Lebanon 1 pound; Saudi Arabia 1.50 riyals; UAE 1.50 dirhams; Great Britain 25 pence

Khayyat thanks King and Rifai

AMMAN (Petra) — Minister of Waqaf and Islamic Affairs Abdul Aziz Al Khayyat Wednesday sent a cable of thanks and appreciation to His Majesty King Hussein for His Majesty's decision to donate his allocations for the month of March to the Zakat Fund to help the families of Palestinians killed, wounded and arrested in the Palestinian uprising in the occupied Arab territories. "Your royal gesture came as a support for the Palestinians' steadfastness in the occupied West Bank and Gaza and bolstered the meanings of bravery and heroism of our Arab kinsmen there," Khayyat said. The minister also sent a similar cable of thanks to Prime Minister Zaid Rifai for the Commission of Ministers' decision to contribute one day's wage of all government employees to the Zakat Fund to help the Palestinian uprising.

Moscow reaffirms stand on Israel

MOSCOW (R) — Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev has said again that Moscow is willing to find a way to restore diplomatic relations with Israel. Pravda said Wednesday. The issue came up during six hours of talks Tuesday between Gorbachev and the visiting Italian Communist Party leader Alessandro Natta. "Within the framework of preparations for carrying out an international conference (on the Middle East) way will also be found to restore normal relations between the USSR and Israel," the Communist Party newspaper quoted Gorbachev as saying. In recent weeks, Moscow has condemned Israeli authorities over the Palestinian uprising in the occupied territories.

British Conservative backs Israeli Labour

LONDON (AP) — Michael Heseltine, a British Conservative MP, urged Israelis to vote Labour in their general election this year. He told the House of Commons during the daily question time and answer session. "The issue must be the peace process, and many friends of Israel outside that country will be voting for the Labour party," Heseltine said. "I am putting forward proposals," Latham, 45, is an Irishman of the Anglo-Israeli association.

Demenjuk verdict April 18

TEL AVIV (AP) — The court today is holding over the Nazi war crimes trial of retired U.S. auto maker John Demenjuk will announce its verdict April 18, the court announced Wednesday. If Demenjuk is found guilty, he could be sentenced to death. The Ukrainian-born defendant says he is a victim of mistaken identity.

Reagan defends Meese

WASHINGTON (R) — President Reagan Wednesday defended his embattled attorney general Edwin Meese and dismissed demands for Meese's resignation. "I have every confidence in him," Reagan told reporters at the White House Rose Garden. "He's been a friend for years and I'm not going to comment any further on what is going on there (at the Justice Department)." Reagan said in response to a shouted question about whether Meese should step down.

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Sweeping Israeli actions unsuccessful in aborting demonstrations; PPS shut down

4 killed, 60 shot and wounded in Land Day protests

NAZARETH (Agencies) — Israeli troops killed at least four Palestinians and wounded more than 60 Wednesday in the occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip where unprecedented preventive measures failed to curb anti-occupation demonstrations, Arab and Israeli sources said.

A three-day ban on media travel to the occupied areas and army reluctance to give immediate details, coupled with the closure of a Palestinian news agency that was a main source of information, left newsmen uncertain about the exact toll. The army ordered the Palestine Press Service (PPS) news agency closed for six months while the supreme court rejected a petition from the Foreign Press Association (FPA) to open the occupied territories immediately for press coverage.

The violence marked "Land Day," an annual day of protest by Israeli Arabs against land confiscation during which residents of the West Bank and Gaza were widely expected to stage their own protests as part of the three-month-old uprising. The casualty toll in the occupied territories contrasted with events in areas of Israel inhabited by the country's Arab minority of 700,000 where a day of protest passed generally peacefully. Hospitals in the West Bank towns of Ramallah and Nablus

respectively said they had received the bodies of a woman and of a man shot dead in clashes with troops. Reliable Palestinian sources quoted by Reuters said they were told a man was also killed near Hebron while an Israeli source said a first report spoke of a further fatality near Jerusalem. At least 45 West Bank residents and 15 inhabitants of the Gaza Strip were wounded, mostly by gunfire but some by clubbings and tear-gas, Israeli sources said. Most of the injuries were in the Hebron and Tulkarm areas of the West Bank. At least two Israeli soldiers were hurt, including one hit on the head with an axe, the sources added. In Nazareth, small groups of Palestinians stood at mostly deserted street corners jeering at

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Israeli-SLA force storms village, kills 11, wounds 12

BEIRUT (AP) — Tank-led militiamen backed by Israeli helicopter gunships stormed a town in South Lebanon Wednesday, killing eleven people, wounding 12 others and demolishing scores of houses, police said. The 9:45 a.m. (0745 GMT) push coincided with a general strike and joint Lebanese-Palestinian demonstrations in Lebanon in support of the Palestinian uprising in the Israeli-occupied West Bank and Gaza. Police and United Nations observers said militiamen of the Israeli-backed South Lebanon Army (SLA) in tanks advanced one kilometre west of Israel's self-proclaimed "security zone" into the southern village of Kfar Rouman, where they fought heavy clashes with resistance fighters.

Eleven people, including two women, were killed in fierce street battles between the attacking force and fighters of the pro-Iranian Hizbollah (Party of God) and the Shi'ite Amal militia, hospital and security sources said. The force of 150 SLA militiamen, accompanied by Israeli officers and backed by tanks and armoured vehicles, occupied parts of the village for seven hours before pulling out. Shocked residents emerged from their shell-pocked houses, several of which were still on fire, after the attackers withdrew to the "security zone." Some screamed for help in panic. Others packed belongings in preparation for fleeing in event of another attack. SLA sources in Marjayoun inside the "security zone," set up

by Israel in 1985, said Israeli officers took part in the operation. Israeli gunners covered the advance by shelling Kfar Rouman and surrounding villages from Ibl Al Saqi village inside the zone, they said. Two SLA men were wounded in the fighting. A United Nations source said more than 100 artillery shells and 30 mortar bombs slammed into Kfar Rouman. At least 11 houses were destroyed and villagers said they were blown up by the SLA and the Israelis. The SLA sources said the militia destroyed five houses after finding weapons in three of them. The villagers said a 65-year-old man and his wife were found shot dead in the head inside their house. Hospital and police identified the other victims as a woman, two Egyptian workers, five Hizbollah fighters and an Amal militiaman. Seven people were injured, they said. The Islamic Resistance, a coalition of resistance groups including Hizbollah, said Israeli shells hit two ambulances rushing to evacuate casualties from Kfar Rouman and nearby villages. After the force withdrew, Hizbollah and Amal militiamen brandishing rocket launchers and Kalashnikov rifles fanned out in the narrow streets of the village and nearby fields just beneath SLA hilltop posts. Kfar Rouman, a few km from the market town of Nabatieh which was also shell-hit, has been frequently attacked by SLA gunners overlooking the village. Islamic resistance said it repulsed the Israeli-SLA advance and inflicted several casualties on the attackers, while Amal officials said an Israeli tank was destroyed at the entrance to the village. Security sources said earlier the

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PLO said to have agreed to Shultz-Palestinian meeting

OCCUPIED JERUSALEM (Agencies) — In a change of heart, the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) has given the green light for a meeting between Palestinians from the occupied territories and U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz, according to a prominent Palestinian from the occupied West Bank. American officials said they hoped such a session, expected to take place next week in Jerusalem, would help breathe life into the new U.S. peace proposal for the region. The shift in policy came after Shultz met three days ago with two Palestinian-American members of the Palestine National Council (PNC). "That meeting was great. It was a big step forward and paved the way for us to meet with Shultz next week," said Said Kanaan, a prominent Nablus businessman. The PLO issued two declarations this week, one via a PLO representative in Cairo and the other from its headquarters in Tunis, approving Palestinian attendance at a meeting with Shultz next week. Kanaan said. But Kanaan said Palestinians from Jerusalem and the occupied territories would not attend the Jerusalem meeting unless the PLO approval was well publicised and PLO Chairman Yasser Arafat came out publicly behind it. Shultz is scheduled to arrive in occupied Jerusalem Sunday and, after speaking to Israeli leaders, will also visit Jordan, Syria, Saudi Arabia and Egypt.

"We want a chance to discuss our grievances, and to tell him the PLO must be a party to peace talks on equal footing with all other parties," Kanaan told the AP. Bethlehem Mayor Elias Freij said he believed a meeting between the Palestinians and Shultz would be beneficial for all sides. "If the PLO publicly agrees on a list of Palestinians to meet with Shultz, that would be great," Freij told the AP. But he added that as far as he knew, no such list had been drawn up. When Shultz visited the region in February, Palestinians from the territories heeded a call from the PLO and refused to meet him. The refusal was viewed by American officials as a setback for U.S. peace proposals. The climate has changed because of Shultz's meeting Saturday with Edward Said, a Columbia University professor, and Ibrahim Abu Lughod of Northwestern University in Chicago. Both men are members of the PNC, the PLO's legislative body. Israeli officials, including Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir, denounced the talks as a violation of a U.S. commitment not to meet with the PLO. But other officials close to U.S. efforts to start negotiations in the region said the meeting was intended to pave the way for further involvement of the Palestinians in the peace process.

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Jordan marks Land Day with rallies, vow of support for Palestinian uprising

By Nermeen Murad
Jordan Times Staff Reporter
with agency reports

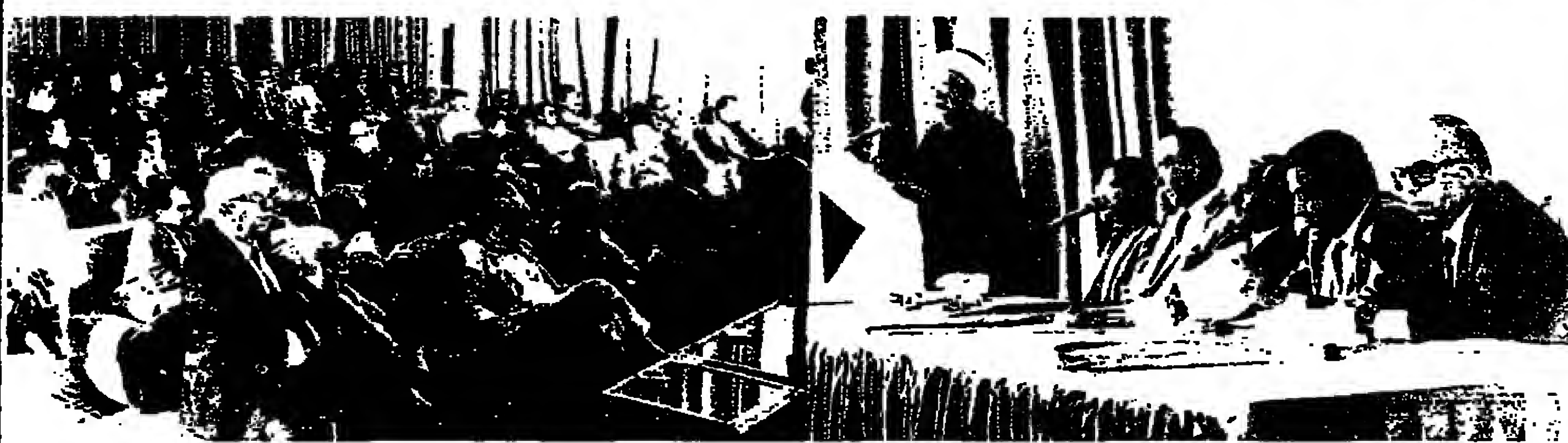
AMMAN — People from all walks of life Wednesday held orderly and well organised demonstrations and rallies in support of the 15-week-old Palestinian national uprising on the

eve of the 12th Land Day anniversary. At the University of Jordan, a rally was held on the occasion and speakers praised Jordan's continued support of the Palestinian cause and hailed the steadfastness of the uprising. Dr. Hani Abdul Rahman, dean of the Student Affairs

Department, praised the "integration of the Jordanian and Palestinian people in supporting the uprising." "Jordan, under the leadership of His Majesty King Hussein, will remain the backbone of the Palestinian uprising until it achieves its goals." Speaking at the rally were

also Ahmad Shuqair, Dr. Abdul Aziz Haj Ahmad, Pharmacist Association President Tayseer Humsi and Dr. Ahmad Noufal from the University of Jordan. Following the rally students congregated and carried

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Palestine National Council Speaker Sheikh Abdul Hamid Al Saeh addresses a rally held at the Professional Association Complex Wednesday to mark Land Day (photo by Khalil Mazrawi)

King sends message to Assad

AMMAN (J.T.) — Prime Minister Zaid Rifai paid a brief working visit to Syria Wednesday and delivered a message from His Majesty King Hussein to Syrian President Hafez Al Assad. The Jordan News Agency, Petra, said Assad and Rifai also discussed the latest developments in the Middle East and the Palestinian uprising in the occupied West Bank and Gaza as well as issues of common concern. Attending the meeting, which included a working lunch, were Syrian Vice-President Abdul Halim Khaddam and Prime Minister Mahmoud Al Zu'bi. Rifai later held a separate meeting with Khaddam and Zu'bi.

Rifai and Zu'bi held another meeting earlier Wednesday immediately after Rifai's arrival in Damascus.

Rifai returned home later Wednesday. The King's message to Assad comes ahead of a planned visit to the Middle East by U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz in pursuit of a new American proposal for peace in the Middle East. The proposal was submitted to the region's leaders earlier this month by Shultz. Shultz is due to return to the Middle East starting Sunday, and Jordan is among the states he plans to visit for talks on the U.S. plan. Syria has described the proposals as unacceptable in its present form. Jordan said it saw some positive elements in the proposals. King Hussein sought a unified Arab stance on the U.S. proposals during visits this month to Iraq, Kuwait, Syria and Egypt.

Jordan, Egypt condemn Iran, pledge solidarity Iranian gunboats attack Bubiyan; Kuwait reserves right to retaliate

KUWAIT (Agencies) — Kuwait said three Iranian gunboats attacked its Gulf island of Bubiyan Wednesday and wounded two Kuwaiti servicemen in an exchange of fire. Iran denied the charge. A Defence Ministry statement said Kuwaiti troops fired back when the gunboats attacked positions on Bubiyan, about 30 kilometres northeast of Kuwait City and facing the southern theatre of the Iran-Iraq war. In Amman, Kuwaiti Foreign Minister Sheikh Sabah Al Ahmad Al Sabah told reporters he hoped there would be no further confrontations. "I hope this attack is not repeated, especially now that we are attempting to build good relations with Iran," he said. In Amman, the Jordan News

Agency, Petra, said His Majesty King Hussein contacted the Emir of Kuwait, Sheikh Jaber Al Ahmad Al Sabah, and condemned the Iranian attack. The King pledged Jordan's support for Kuwait "in the face of any aggression," Petra said. The Defence Ministry statement, which did not mention Iranian casualties, said Kuwait reserved the right to retaliate. Bubiyan, inhabited only by troops, serves as a forward defence position for Kuwait and is linked to the mainland by a bridge. The marshy island of about 775 square kilometres, the largest of nine Kuwaiti islands in the Gulf, is separated by a narrow waterway from Iraq's Fao peninsula which was occupied by Iranian forces in February 1986.

The Kuwaiti Defence Ministry said Kuwait artillery on the island fired on the Iranians. A communique did not say if any of the armed speedboats were hit in the 8.15 a.m. (0515 GMT) clash. But shipping executives, speaking on condition of anonymity, said none was hit by the Kuwaiti shellfire. The Kuwaiti communique declared that Kuwait "reserves the right to respond to any assault on its territory or infringement on its sovereignty." Shipping executives said vessels near Bubiyan reported that the gunboats opened fire at a range of only a few hundreds metres from the island. The officials said the exchange only lasted a few minutes before

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Iraqis attack Iranian towns, shipping; Mujahedeen claim Khuzestan victory

BAHRAIN (Agencies) — Iraq said it fired three missiles into the central Iranian city of Esfahan Wednesday while its jets attacked an Iranian shuttle tanker in the Gulf. An Iraqi military spokesman said aircraft also raided the western Iranian cities of Dezful and Boroujerd and destroyed three Hawk anti-aircraft missile batteries at unspecified locations. Gulf shipping sources said Iraqi jets hit and set on fire the 259,449-tonne Cypriot supertanker Anax south of Iran's Kharg Island oil terminal around 0630 GMT. Iraq has reported six attacks on ships in the Gulf in the last 10 days, but Wednesday's strike was the first to be confirmed independently. Tehran Radio confirmed Iraqi planes bombed Boroujerd and Dezful Wednesday, damaging a number of houses. It had no

world on casualties. The radio said Iranian jets flew 17 bombing missions against Iraqi troops and defence lines in Iraq's northeastern Sulaymaniyah province. Iranian rebels said they killed 2,000 Iranian Revolutionary Guards in a two-day battle in the oil-rich southern Khuzestan region. The Iraqi News Agency (INA) said Iraq fired three long-range missiles into Esfahan, and Tehran Radio said the missiles killed five people, wounded several others and destroyed some houses and a mosque in the central Iranian city. The Islamic Republic News Agency (IRNA) said Iranian warplanes dropped 10 tonnes of bombs on Sulaymaniyah and fired 14 short-range missiles into border towns. INA said a number of civilians, including three children, were killed in missile and shelling attacks.

A communique issued by the Baghdad headquarters of the Iraqi-backed National Liberation Army (NLA) of Iran said a strike force of 15 brigades had returned to Iraq from the two-day drive into oil-rich Khuzestan province. The NLA, which seeks to topple Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeini's government, claimed 1,500 Iranians were wounded and 500 captured, while it lost 30 killed and 92 wounded. It said its forces included two battalions of women fighters and was spearheaded by an armoured brigade. The NLA said it captured or destroyed Iranian equipment, including 17 Korean war-vintage U.S.-built M-47 tanks, armoured vehicles and rocket launchers, worth an estimated \$100 million. It said its force, estimated at several thousand fighters, was spearheaded by an armoured brigade, the first time the NLA has used tanks since it began assaulting Iranian positions along the battlefield 13 months ago. The operations are believed to be the biggest assault the NLA has mounted in that period. The Baghdad communique said the NLA fighters decimated nine infantry, tank and artillery battalions of Iran's 77th Khorasan division in the fighting around the strategic highway running south from the garrison city of Dezful. It said NLA forces withdrew with its war booty that included 4 M-47 tanks, an armoured personnel carrier, 106-mm guns and 45 heavy mortars.

Iran delays talks

The United Nations said Tuesday new talks aimed at halting the war due to begin Wednesday had been postponed at Iran's request.

Informal Afghan talks continue; U.S. hopes to clinch agreement

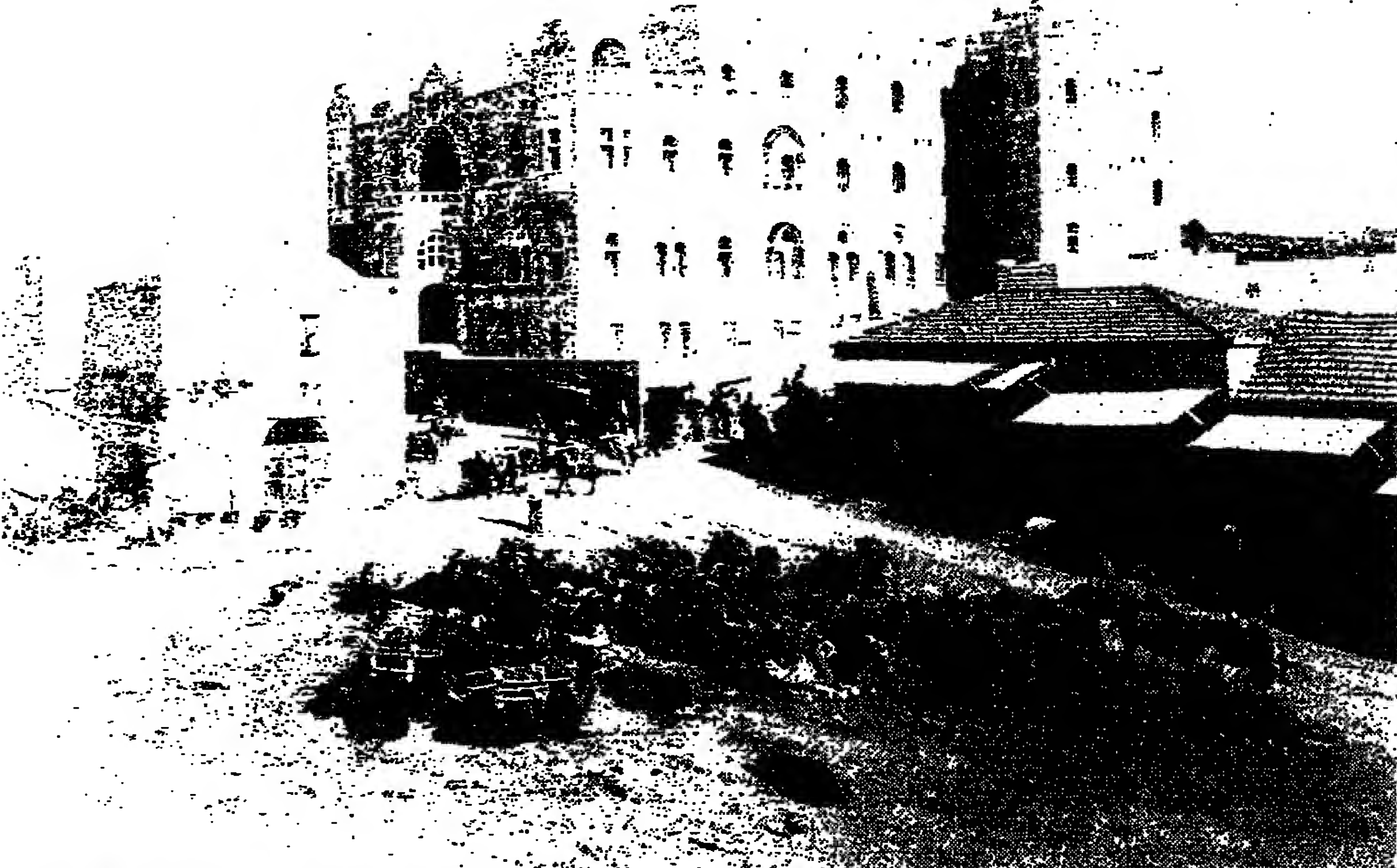
GENEVA (Agencies) — The latest round of U.N.-sponsored negotiations on an Afghan peace settlement entered its fifth week Wednesday with the parties continuing efforts to settle the final question of future military aid to the warring sides. No formal meetings were scheduled between U.N. mediator Diego Cordovez and the Afghan or Pakistani delegations Wednesday. But Cordovez met separately with special Soviet envoy Nikolay Kozirev and U.S. Deputy Assistant Secretary of State Robert Peck, both of whom have been following the indirect talks between Pakistan and Afghanistan since the latest round started March 2. Peck told reporters as he entered

his meeting that he was "convinced that the Soviets want to withdraw and want an agreement, and we will stay here until we get an agreement." He said, "the U.S. president is not going to be easily satisfied," and that an eventual accord "will have to ensure the withdrawal of Soviet troops, self-determination of the Afghan people, return of refugees and non-alignment of Afghanistan." U.S. and Pakistani officials say the question of future military aid to the warring sides is the last obstacle to a comprehensive settlement designed to end more than eight years of fighting in Afghanistan. Peck admitted Wednesday that the superpowers remain divided by an "apparently intractable

problem" — Soviet determination to continue military supplies to Kabul. Washington wants them to stop in tandem with any end in U.S. aid to the Afghan rebels. Without concessions from one or both superpowers on that issue, the U.N. accord appeared doomed, diplomats said. Kozirev said it would be impossible for the Kremlin to end supplies to Kabul, and said it was not even being discussed. "The cutting off of aid is not a topic of discussion. It's impossible," he told reporters before meeting Cordovez.

Rebels reject

In Islamabad, Afghan rebels



A traditional camel caravan resting in front of one of the gates of Jerusalem, circa 1890.

A short history of Jordan - III

Sowing the seeds for Arab revolt

By Dr. Raouf Sa'd Abujaber

The following is the last of three articles summarising Jordan's history in the 19th century. The writer, a leading Jordanian businessman, is a researcher in contemporary history. He recently obtained his doctorate degree in history from St. Anthony's College at Oxford.

THE EGYPTIAN occupation of Bilad al-Sham between 1831 and 1841, in itself, was another sign of the general internal weakness in the Ottoman Empire. Muhammad 'Ali Pasha, the Wali of Egypt, and his son Ibrahim conquered all of Syria and for ten years consolidated four predominantly Arab provinces, Egypt, Damascus, Aleppo and Sayda, into a single political state. Egyptian rule for Syria in general

meant a better and more progressive administration but for Transjordan, it did not really bring much change. The Egyptian presence, at most times, was nominal, probably because the countryside did not have the potential normally required by conquerors. It had neither the population density that would provide a good number of conscripts for the army, nor did it offer any opportunity for collection of taxes on a

worthwhile scale. Furthermore, the lines of strategic and commercial communications and supply that were so important under the Mamluks during the 14th and 15th centuries were now replaced by the sea routes and the coastal roads. The improved presence of the Egyptian fleet, which was reorganised in 1829 on the basis of European standards, meant faster and less costly transportation of army reinforcements and supplies after the original major expedition had made its thrust into Syria. This situation greatly reduced the importance of south-eastern Bilad al-Sham and led to its neglect by the new administration.

The records of the Egyptian campaign that are available to us do not mention the prevailing conditions in Transjordan, nor do they report in any detail the events or the military activity during the first stages of the Egyptian presence. It is probably safe to assume that the state of anarchy, tribal domination and limited interest in agriculture continued to prevail. Some useful information is derived from the minutes of the meeting held by the Majlis al-Shura (consultative council) in Damascus, on 24 Safar 1248 H/23 July 1832 A.D. These state clearly that the bedouins were, as before uncontrollable, and confirmed that: "The Bedouins were committing very unjust acts and mistreating people

in Hawran, Irbid, and Ajloun, through plunder, taking by force and highway robbery. What lies behind this arrogance and greed is the absence of any cavalry forces in Bilad al-Sham. The mutasallim (governor) of Hawran is good for nothing and is more greedy than the bedouins."

With nothing much to look back to during these ten years, the people of Transjordan were not unhappy to see the end of Egyptian rule. They were even encouraged to participate in armed struggle to expedite the withdrawal and a record of these days of strife can be found in three books of the day. The first, *Narrative of the Late Expedition under the Command of Admiral the Hon. Sir Robert Stopford*, by W.P. Hunder, mentions the officers who were sent into the Syrian countryside, "to urge every Syrian to rise and harass to the utmost of his power the retreating forces of the Ibrahim Pasha who had shown symptoms of evacuating Damascus." The second, *The War in Syria*, by Commodore Sir Charles Napier, reports how Ibrahim Pasha succeeded by quick movements between al-Muzayrib, Zizia, al-Salt, al-Karak, and Jericho in holding off the Ottomans and their allies and withdrawing from Transjordan with the bulk of his forces. The third, *Reminiscences of Syria*, by Lieutenant Colonel E. Napier, gives an account of Napier's activity with his one hundred irregular horsemen at Umm Qays and also that of Count Szechenyi, a captain of the Austrian Dragoons and a relation of Count Metternich. Assisted by Captain Lane of the French Army, the Austrian officer moved his six hundred irregulars, who were raised at Tubna in Nahiya al-Kura a few days earlier, and engaged the troops of Ibrahim Pasha at Jerash during the first few days of January 1841.

South-eastern Bilad al-Sham did not immediately feel however the winds of change that blew over the other provinces in the Ottoman Empire during the Tanzimat era, which brought reforms that were started by Sultan 'Abd al-Majid I (1839-1861). The countryside was poor, with a small population that paid meagre taxes whenever the governmental administration had the military means to stop bedouin oppression of the settled people. The northern part continued to live within the framework of the local mashaykhat (chieftainships), basically under bedouin domination whether as allies or foes. This situation continued until the

late 1840s when the Ottomans tried to extend their control southwards and announced the establishment of the Liwa' of 'Ajloun, to which was attached Irbid and al-Balqa'. Although this administrative addition appeared in the *Saltname-yi osmaniye* of 1266 H/1844 A.D., it does not seem to have been put into effect until 1851, when a governor was appointed and the district came under governmental control. Unfortunately the saltames of 1850 to 1853 are missing from the collection at the Baskakanlik in Istanbul but that of 1854 mentions Liwa 'Ajloun with only Nahiyat al-Kura attached to it. The Saltame of 1855 mentions four districts attached to Liwa 'Ajloun, Irbid, al-Balqa', and al-Karak and this, in the absence of any actual Ottoman physical control, must be explained as an indication of the intentions of the wali of Damascus to try and control the countryside. To

achieve their aim, the Ottomans resorted to a new drive to assist farmers and at the same time cooperated with the bedouin elements that seemed more ready and willing. This trend was maintained and by 1867 al-Salt was already controlled by the Ottomans who had a governor installed in it.

The situation in the southern district of al-Karak was, however, quite different. The area in general had a relatively small population while the terrain was rough and wild. The pilgrim caravan did not pass through the area and there was no potential for any worthwhile amount of taxes to be collected. The area was therefore again practically ignored between the years 1841 and 1894 when a serious and successful attempt was made to bring it under direct Ottoman control. Although the immediate causes for this decision are not yet well documented, it is on record that Husayn Hilmi Pasha, until then

general secretary of Wilaya Suriya, was appointed by the wali as the Mutasarrif of the Sanjaq of Ma'an in charge of three aqdya (provinces) of al-Salt, Ma'an and Tafla. This appointment, which is confirmed in the *Saltname-yi Suriya* for 1312 H/1894 A.D., in effect enveloped the whole of Transjordan with the exception of the qada' of 'Ajloun which was attached to the Sanjaq of Hawran.

A thorough study involving documents in Damascus, the capital of the Governorate of Syria, will reveal the intricate manoeuvres that brought about these developments and how Husayn Hilmi Pasha managed, with about 4,000 troops and many presents and stipends, to enter al-Karak in peace. It is, now, generally recognised that the Ottoman administration was at long last established in the whole of Transjordan after an absence that may have continued for some three hundred years.



(Above) members of the Abu Jaber family and guests in the madafa of the Abu Jaber home at Yadouda, south of Amman, circa 1930, and (below) bedouin warriors in Palestine at the turn of the century.



TV & RADIO

JORDAN TELEVISION

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PROGRAMME ONE

15:00 Koran
15:30 Programme Review
15:40 Children programmes
17:10 French teaching programme
17:40 Moving Camera
18:10 News in Arabic
19:00 Health and Life (local)
19:40 Programme review
20:00 News in Arabic
20:30 Arabic film
21:30 Review of next week's programme
22:00 Arabic film
23:00 News summary in Arabic
23:10 Film contd.

PROGRAMME TWO

18:00 Rue Carnot
18:30 La chance aux chansons
19:00 News in French
19:15 French Varieties
19:30 News in Hebrew
19:45 Varieties
20:00 Kate and Allie
21:10 Rags to Riches
22:00 News in English
22:20 Feature film: Agatha Christie's "Murder in Three Acts"

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PROGRAMME ONE

07:00 Light Music
07:30 Newsdesk
08:00 Morning Show
10:00 News Summary
10:30 Morning Show Contd.
11:30 Country Music
11:50 Hittville: The story of Motown
12:00 News Summary
12:05 Now Music
13:00 News Summary
13:05 Pop Session
14:00 News Bulletin
14:10 Instrumentals
14:30 My Music
15:00 Concert Hour
16:00 News Summary
16:05 Instrumentals
16:30 Old Favorites
17:00 Hittville: The story of Motown
17:30 Pop Session
18:00 News Summary
18:05 Our Mutual Friend
18:30 Music
19:00 Newsdesk
19:30 Date with a Star
20:00 Evening Show
21:00 Friday's prayer
21:05 Evening Show Contd.
21:55 News Summary

FOR FRIDAY

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JORDAN TELEVISION

Tel: 773111-19

PROGRAMME ONE

10:00 Koran
10:30 Programme Review
10:40 Rainbow Rite
11:20 Cartoons and Children programme
12:30 Religious series
13:00 Sports magazine
14:40 Art and Crafts
15:25 Vengere
16:45 Arabic Comedy
17:15 Believe It or Not
18:05 News reports
18:20 Viewers' choice (Arabic)
19:20 Local programme
19:50 Programme review
20:00 News in Arabic
20:30 A programme on the West Bank

BBC WORLD SERVICE

639, 720, 1323 KHz

PROGRAMME ONE

06:00 Newsdesk 06:30 Sports World
06:45 Reflections 06:50 Financial News
07:00 World News 07:05 24 Hours:
News Summary 07:30 The World
Cross 07:45 The World Today 08:00
Newsdesk 08:30 Great Love Duets
08:40 The Farming World 09:00 World
News 09:05 24 Hours: News Summary
09:30 Juke Box 09:45 Network
UK 10:00 World News 10:40 Reflec-
tions 10:15 Sports World 10:30 John
Peel 11:00 World News 11:05 British
Press Review 11:15 The World Today
11:30 Financial News: Sports Roundup
11:45 The Story of English 12:00 News
Summary: Assignment 12:30 Two
Cheers for March 13:00 World News
13:05 News About Britain 13:15 The
Wondrous Cross 13:25 A Letter from
England 13:30 Citizens 14:00 Radio
Newsweek: 14:15 Multitrack 2 14:45
Sports Roundup 15:00 World News
15:05 24 Hours: News Summary 15:30
Network UK 15:45 Folk in Britain/Jazz
16:00 World News 16:05 World
News 16:45 Write On... 17:00 Radio
Newsweek 17:15 The Pleasure of Your
18:00 World News 18:05 Commentary
18:15 Assignment 18:45 The World
Today 19:00 World News 19:05 A
Letter from England 19:15 Citizens
19:45 Sports Roundup 20:00 Newsdesk
20:30 Discovery 21:00 Outlook: News
Summary: 21:30 Stock Market Report
21:45 Hittville: Hittville 22:00 World
News 22:05 Twenty-Fours: News Sum-
mary 22:30 Meridian 23:00 News Sum-
mary followed by The Wondrous Cross
23:15 A Jolly Good Show 24:00 World
News

VOICE OF AMERICA

MW 1260 & SW 7201, 9565, 11740, 12925 and 15210 KHz

PROGRAMME ONE

06:00 News 06:10 Newsline 06:30 VOA
Morning 07:00 News 07:10 Newsline
07:30 VOA Morning 08:00 News 08:10
Newsline 08:30 VOA Morning 17:00
News 17:10 Newsline 17:30 Music
USA 18:00 News 18:10 Focus 18:30
Special English News & Features 19:00
News 19:10 Newsline 19:30 Magazine
Show 20:00 News 20:10 Focus 20:30
Special English News & Features 21:00
News 21:10 Newsline 21:30 Music
USA 22:00 News & Editorial 22:15
Music USA Jazz 23:00 News 23:10
World Jazz

RADIO JORDAN

855 KHz. AM & 99 MHz. FM & partly on 960 KHz. SW

Tel: 774111-19

PROGRAMME TWO

19:00 Les 5 dernières minutes Fais
19:15 News in French
19:45 Varieties
20:00 News in Arabic
20:30 Growing Pains
21:10 Magnum
22:00 News in English
22:20 Falcon Crest
23:10 Richman, Footman

RADIO JORDAN

855 KHz. AM & 99 MHz. FM & partly on 960 KHz. SW

Tel: 774111-19

PROGRAMME THREE

07:00 Light Music
07:30 Newsdesk
08:00 Morning Show
10:00 News Summary
10:30 Morning Show Contd.
11:30 Country Music
11:50 Hittville: The story of Motown
12:00 News Summary
12:05 Now Music
13:00 News Summary
13:05 Pop Session
14:00 News Bulletin
14:10 Instrumentals
14:30 My Music
15:00 Concert Hour
16:00 News Summary
16:05 Instrumentals
16:30 Old Favorites
17:00 Hittville: The story of Motown
17:30 Pop Session
18:00 News Summary
18:05 Our Mutual Friend
18:30 Music
19:00 Newsdesk
19:30 Date with a Star
20:00 Evening Show
21:00 Friday's prayer
21:05 Evening Show Contd.
21:55 News Summary

WHAT'S GOING ON

TODAY'S EVENTS

EXHIBITIONS

* Egyptian Book Exhibition at the Professional Association Union.

* Book exhibition at the Comprehensive Commercial Centre (Tower Building), Jabal Amman, 3rd Circle (permanent).

* General book exhibition at the Professional Associations Complex in Shmeisani.

* Art exhibition by Samia Zarour at the Jordan National Museum of Fine Arts (until end of March).

* Art exhibition by Mohammad Boulos and Mounira Al Tounish at the Housing Bank Gallery (runs through April 19).

* First School Arts Exhibition at Ahmad Touqan School. Open during school hours until June 1988.

* From Gutenberg to Electronics Dar el Tib (until 11 April) Goethe Institute.

* Russian House Exhibition at Sa'gh Commercial Centre, Abldir.

* A specialised workshop on medical research, at University of Jordan Manpower Development Centre (runs until April 10).

Bazaar

* Charitable bazaar, held by Hamzah Islamic Cultural Centre for Women at Ain Karim Society (runs until Monday April 4).

FILMS

* "Prizzi's Honour" at 7:00 p.m. Thursday at the American Centre.

* "I quattro dell'oca selvaggia" (Italian) at 7:30 p.m. Thursday at the Haya Arts Centre.

CULTURAL CENTRES

Royal Cultural Centre .. Tel. 6610267
American Centre .. 643171
American Centre Library .. 641520
British Council .. 636147/8
French Cultural Centre .. 637009
Goethe Institute .. 641993
Soviet Cultural Centre .. 644203
Spanish Cultural Centre .. 620409
Turkish Cultural Centre .. 639777

MUSEUMS

* "Children's Heritage and Science Museum." Fun and knowledge for all ages, plus a small planetarium at the Haya Arts Centre. Open all week 9:00 a.m. - 1 p.m. and 3:30 p.m. - 6:00 p.m. Closed on Friday.

* Fallouh Museum: Jewellery and costumes over 100 years old. Also mosaics from Madaba and Jerash (4th to 18th centuries). The Roman Theatre, Amman. Opening hours: 9:00 a.m. - 5 p.m. Year-round. Tel. 631766.

* Jordan Archaeological Museum: Has an excellent collection of the antiquities of Jordan. Jabal Al Qal'a (Citadel Hill). Opening hours: 9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. (Fridays and official holidays 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.). Closed Tuesdays.

SERVICE CLUBS

The Amman Lions Club. Meetings every first and third Wednesday at the Regency Palace Hotel, 7:30 p.m.

Lions Philadelph Club. Meetings every second and fourth Wednesday at the Amman Hotel, 7:30 p.m.

Philadelph Rotary Club. Meetings every Wednesday at the Holiday Inn, 1:30 p.m.

CHURCHES

St. Joseph Church (Roman Catholic) Jabal Hussein, Tel. 661757.

Church of the Annunciation (Roman Catholic) Jabal Luweibdeh, Tel. 637440.

De la Salle Church (Roman Catholic) Terrasanta Church (Roman Catholic), Jabal Luweibdeh, mass in Italian language, meet every Saturday at 5:30 p.m. Tel: 622366.

Catholics of the Annunciation (Greek Orthodox) Abdali, Tel. 623541.

Anglican Church (Church of the Redeemer) Jabal Amman, Tel. 625383, chaplain's residence tel. 601399.

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FOR THE TRAVELLER

QUEEN ALIA INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT

This information is supplied by Royal Jordanian (RJ) Information department at the Queen Alia International Airport Tel. (08) 53200-5, where it should always be verified.

ARRIVALS ROYAL JORDANIAN FLIGHTS (Terminal 1)

09:15 Agaba (RJ)
09:30 Cairo (RJ)
09:40 Kuwait (RJ)
09:40 Jeddah (RJ)
09:50 Dhahran (RJ)
09:55 Doha, Bahrain (RJ)
10:00 Dubai, Abu Dhabi (RJ)
14:45 Rome (add.) (RJ)
17:35 New York, Vienna (RJ)
18:15 London, Geneva (RJ)
18:45 Bucharest, Larnaca (RJ)
19:30 Athens, Larnaca (RJ)
20:15 Rome (RJ)
23:55 Baghdad (RJ)

OTHER FLIGHTS (Terminal 2)

12:05 Cairo (MS)
12:55 Abu Dhabi, Bahrain (GF)
13:40 Kuwait (KU)
15:00 Riyadh (SV)
15:10 Baghdad (IA)
17:50 Amsterdam (KLM)
18:25 Frankfurt (LH)
18:35 Cairo (MS)
19:10 Zurich, Larnaca (SR)
19:40 Paris (AF)
23:55 London, Cairo (BA)

DEPARTURES ROYAL JORDANIAN FLIGHTS (Terminal 1)

06:45 Rome (add.) (RJ)
07:00 Agaba (RJ)
08:30 Bucharest (RJ)
09:40 Larnaca, Athens (RJ)
09:45 Rome (RJ)
12:00 Frankfurt (RJ)
12:15 Brussels, Paris (RJ)
12:30 London (RJ)
19:35 Dubai, Muscat (RJ)
19:40 Bahrain, Doha (RJ)
19:55 Baghdad (RJ)
20:00 Jeddah (RJ)
20:15 Cairo (RJ)
20:35 Abu Dhabi (RJ)
21:30 Kuala Lumpur, Singapore (RJ)
22:00 Bangkok (RJ)

Dury 13:15 Seven Seas 13:30 Jazz for the Asking 14:00 World News 14:09 News About Britain 14:15 The Wondrous Cross 14:30 Meridian 15:00 Radio Newsweek 15:15 Business Matters 15:45 Sports Roundup 16:00 World News 16:09 24 Hours: News Summary 16:30 John Peel 17:00 Outlook: 5-Minute News 17:45 Nature Notebook 18:00 Radio Newsweek 18:15 The Kingship - Parts 1 and 2 19:00 World News 19:09 Commentary 19:15 Science in Action 19:45 The World Today 20:00 World News 20:09 A Letter from Northern Ireland 20:15 Music Now 20:45 Sports Roundup 21:00 Newsdesk 21:30 Multitrack 23:00 News Summary Outlook 23:30 Outlook contd. 23:45 Personal 23:50 World News 23:59 24 Hours: News Summary 23:59 Science in Action 24:00 News Summary followed by The Wondrous Cross 00:15 Business Through My Window 12:45 Commentary Row 13:00 News Summary: Juke Box

BBC WORLD SERVICE

639, 720, 1323 KHz

PROGRAMME ONE

07:00 Newsdesk 07:30 Country Style
07:45 Reflections 07:50 Financial News
08:00 World News 08:05 24 Hours:
News Summary 8:30 The Wondrous
Cross 08:45 The World Today 09:00
Newsdesk 09:30 Meridian 10:00 World
News 10:05 24 Hours: News Summary
10:30 Write On... 10:45 Seven Seas
11:00 World News 11:05 Reflections
11:15 Virtuoso 11:30 Music Now 12:00
World News 12:05 British Press Re-
view 12:15 The World Today 12:30
Music 08:45 Augustus Carp Esq by
Himself 01:00 World News 01:09 The

OTHER FLIGHTS (Terminal 2)

05:20 Frankfurt (LH)
09:20 Damascus, Paris (AF)
12:50 Cairo (MS)
14:35 Kuwait (KU)
15:00 Bahrain, Doha, Abu Dhabi (GF)
16:30 Baghdad (IA)
16:40 Riyadh (SV)
19:15 Sana'a (LX)
19:20 Cairo (MS)
20:40 Baghdad (AF)

PRAYER TIMES

04:01 Fajr
05:20 (Sunrise) Doha
11:00 Dhuhur
15:15 'Asr
17:59 Maghreb
19:19 'Isha

MONEY EXCHANGE

Wednesday rates
Local sell/buy rates in Jds

Belgian franc 95.5 / 97.2
Dutch guilder 178 / 181.4
French franc 58.1 / 60
Italian lire 27 / 29.5
Japanese yen (for 100) 265.4 / 271.3
Swedish crown 56.5 / 57.5
Swiss franc 241.7 / 246.5
U.K. sterling pound 619.6 / 634.1
U.S. dollar 334.1 / 339.4
W. German mark 197.7 / 203.6

WEATHER

Bulletin supplied by the Department of Meteorology.

With different types of clouds appearing at varying heights and north-westerly moderate winds, there is likely to be slight increase in temperature during the day. In Aqaba, the winds will be north-westerly and calm seas.

Amman Min./max. temp. 6 / 18
Aqaba 15 / 26
Deserts 4 / 21
Jordan Valley 11 / 25

Yesterday's high temperatures: Amman 14, Aqaba 23. Humidity readings: Amman 55 per cent. Aqaba 35 per cent.

USEFUL TELEPHONE NOS.

EMERGENCIES

Amman governorate 891228
Amman Civil Defence 198, 199
Civil Defence Irbid 271293, 273131
Civil Defence Qusaymah 770733
Ambulance 193, 775111
Amman downtown fire brigade 198
First aid 630341
Blood Bank 778303
Civil Defence rescue 661111
Fire headquarters 62200-3
Police rescue 192, 621111, 637777
Police headquarters 639141
Traffic police 896390
Electric Power Co. 636381/4, 634881
Municipal water complaints 771258
Queen Alia Intl. Airport (08)5333060

NIGHT DUTY

AMMAN:
Dr. Munir Oqash 896101
Dr. Adel Amari 812148
Dr. Awad Hamwadeh 776665
Dr. Yousef Rashed 896301
Firas pharmacy 661912
Ferdows pharmacy 773336
Al Asena pharmacy 637055
Nairokh pharmacy 623672
Al Salam pharmacy 636720
Yacoub pharmacy 644945
Smeisani pharmacy 637660

TAXIS

NATIONAL NEWS BRIEFS

HAMMOURI IN CAIRO: Minister of Culture and National Heritage Dr. Mohammad Hamouri met in Cairo Wednesday with Egyptian Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Esmat Abdul Meguid and reviewed Jordanian-Egyptian relations.

TRADE DELEGATION: A high-level Egyptian trade delegation is due here next Wednesday to represent the Egyptian side in the technical committee of the Joint Jordanian-Egyptian Higher Committee. The two sides in the committee will discuss means of enhancing and strengthening trade and economic ties.

NIMER IN TUNIS: Foreign Ministry Secretary General Nabil Al Nimer will lead Jordan's delegation to the meetings of the 89th session of the Arab League Council which will open here Thursday. The council will discuss topics related to joint Arab action, Israeli-African relations, Euro-Arab dialogue, arms cooperation between Israel and Iran as well as implementation of the council's resolutions.

STATISTICS TALKS END: A meeting on statistics activity in the Arab World ended in Amman Wednesday with the delegates issuing several recommendations designed to help various Arab statistics departments to promote their operations. The director of the Jordanian Department of Statistics said that the participants who represented 10 Arab countries and a number of specialised organisations urged the Baghdad based Arab Statistical Institute for Training and Research to offer advice to Sudan on implementing training programmes in statistics related to agriculture.

NIGHT MAIL SORTING: Minister of Transport and Communications Khaled Al Haj Hassan during a visit to Amman Communications Department at Amman Central Post Office Wednesday, said that the ministry was conducting an urgent study to introduce the night mail sorting service at Amman Central Post Office which serves as the postal exchange office between Jordan and world's countries.

PARLIAMENTARIANS: A Jordanian parliamentary delegation Wednesday returned to Amman after a week-long visit to Egypt at the invitation of Egyptian People's Council. During the visit the delegation held talks with Speaker of the Egyptian People's Council and a number of Egyptian officials on bilateral relations in parliamentary field as well as latest developments in the Arab World.

U.N. TEAM LEAVES: A 10-member U.N. fact-finding mission Wednesday ended a several-day official visit to Jordan during which they were received by His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan and met with a number of senior officials. The mission, representing the U.N. Information Office, was briefed on the various issues of the region.

EMBEZZLER SENTENCED: The military court has sentenced Marwan Mesbah Mohammad Hajj to three years in prison and fined him JD 18,156 for embezzling public funds. The general military governor endorsed the sentence.

SOLAR RAY: The Department of Meteorology will install 10 stations for gauging solar ray throughout the Kingdom. The department has sent four of its staff to West Germany to receive training in the commissioning and maintenance of these stations.

ART EXHIBITION: Director General of the Jordanian News Agency, Petra, Wednesday opened an art exhibition by Mohammad Abu Zreig at the Alia Art Gallery. On display at the week-long exhibition are 37 paintings depicting the suffering of Arab citizens in the occupied Arab territories and their resistance of the Israeli occupation.

LABOUR UNIONS: A delegation representing Jordanian labour unions has returned from Moscow after taking part in a training seminar for union leaders which lasted several weeks. Apart from lectures, the participants were taken on tours of different workers' centres in the Soviet Union.

EXHIBITION: Yarmouk University has opened a Palestinian cultural exhibition to mark Land Day and the continued Palestinian uprising in the occupied Arab territories. The students union at the university will hold a special festival on the occasion Sunday.

EXTRA ALLOWANCES: The government has allocated JD 2.4 million as extra allowances for citizens appointed in government departments, other than the Ministry of Education, on the occupied West Bank and the Gaza Strip, according to Al Dustour Arabic daily. The paper said that employees appointed in the occupied territories after the 1967 occupation will benefit from the allowances at the rate of JD 20-30 for those in the Gaza Strip and JD 25-35 for those in the West Bank.

YOUTH KILLS AUNT: A 16-year-old boy identified as G.S.G. shot and killed his own aunt aged 30 and a 38-year-old man, according to a report in Al Dustour Arabic daily. The paper said that the boy used a hand gun to fire on the two victims at a place near Karamah in the Jordan Valley. The boy was apprehended and the police were holding an investigation.

CONFERENCES: The 13th meeting of the Arab Health Ministers Council will open in Amman on April 1 and the 15th Arab dentists conference will open on April 6. The Jordanian pharmacists conference will be held between April 6 and 8 under the patronage of His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan.

COMBATING CRIME: A higher committee on combating crime in Jordan is due to hold its first meeting on Saturday April 9 under the chairmanship of Public Security Department PSD Director General Lieutenant General Abdul Hadi Al Majali. On the committee are prominent figures serving in the private and public sectors as well as professors at universities and prominent Jordanian women.

10 TRAINING COURSES: Institute of Public Administration will organise 10 training courses on regional planning during the years 1988 and 1989. The courses will be held in cooperation with the Planning Ministry and the West German government.

Cairo governor arrives

AMMAN (Petra) — Cairo Governor Major General Youssef Sabri Abu Taleb and his accompanying delegation arrived here Wednesday for a five-day official visit to Jordan for talks with Jordanian officials on enhancing cooperation between Cairo and Amman.

During the visit, the two sides will also sign an agreement and an executive programme for

cooperation between Cairo and Amman, which were initiated in Cairo in 1986.

The Egyptian guest was received upon arrival by Amman Governor Mohammad Ali Al Amin, Greater Amman Mayor Abdul Ra'ouf Al Rawabdeh, Egyptian Ambassador in Amman Ihab Wahbeh and other senior officials.



Amman Governor Mohammad Ali Al Amin and Greater Amman Mayor Abdul Ra'ouf Al Rawabdeh receive Governor of Cairo Major General Youssef Sabri Abu Taleb in Amman Wednesday (Petra photo).

Ministry to implement new hospital admission law

AMMAN — Ministry hospitals around the country have started implementing Ministry of Health regulations concerning the admission of patients to hospitals.

Only those covered by the general health insurance system can be admitted to government hospitals, provided they are re-

ferred to these hospitals by doctors employed at health centres, and in accordance with the medical-card system.

Health Ministry officials said that first aid and emergency cases are to be exempted from these restrictions.



Her Majesty Queen Noor opens a charity bazaar Wednesday at the Plaza Hotel (Petra photo)

Queen Noor opens charity bazaar; proceeds to benefit Palestinian revolt

AMMAN (Petra) — Her Majesty Queen Noor Wednesday opened a charity bazaar the proceeds of which will benefit the current Palestinian people's uprising in the occupied West Bank and the Gaza Strip.

The bazaar, organised by charitable societies in the Amman area was set up to commemorate Land Day and in a show of solidarity with the Palestinian people.

The Queen toured the different sections of the bazaar and in-

spected items contributed by 24 charitable and philanthropic societies grouped in the General Union of Voluntary Societies (GUVS). These included national costumes, embroideries, carpets, wood and metal works, artificial flowers, paintings and other handicrafts.

The exhibition, organised at the Amman Plaza Hotel, has a special wing for the Jerusalem charitable society which displays Holy Land products.

Later, Queen Noor watched a

show of national costumes from all parts of the Kingdom, and the occupied West Bank and Gaza.

The director of the Amman GUVS branch made a speech on the occasion, thanking the Queen for patronising the event and her continued and relentless efforts to support charity work.

He paid tribute to the sacrifices of the Palestinian people and said that GUVS will give JD 200 to every society that took part in the bazaar.

Prince Mohammad visits brigade

AMMAN (Petra) — His Royal Highness Prince Mohammad, the personal representative of His Majesty King Hussein, Wednesday visited the headquarters of King Hussein Ibn Ali Brigade and inspected the progress of training at the brigade's units.

Prince Mohammad was also briefed on the brigade's duties and responsibilities.

Khasawneh meets Japanese journalists

AMMAN (Petra) — A visiting Japanese journalists delegation met here Wednesday with Minister of Information Hani Khasawneh to discuss Middle East issues, Jordanian-Japanese relations and means for enhancing bilateral cooperation.

The delegation members are here in advance of a visit to Japan by His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan.

Crown Prince visits Armed Forces units

AMMAN (Petra) — His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan Wednesday conducted inspection tours of Armed Forces units in their training fields, where he watched exercises underway and was briefed on operations and training plans.

Later Prince Hassan visited un-

its of the Fifth Royal Armoured Division and watched military exercises.

His last stop was at the 12th Royal Mechanised Division units where he was briefed on training plans and watched exercises with live ammunition also involving air support.



His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan watches an Armed Forces unit exercising with live ammunition.

Haya centre's spring festival kicks off today

By Meg Abu Hamdan
Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN — Reviving the age old atmosphere of a country fair next Thursday will be the Haya Art Centre's Spring Festival. Organised to provide entertainment for the whole family during the coming school holiday, the Spring Festival will also help raise funds for the Haya Centre's latest project — a Mobile Life and Science Museum.

Visitors to the Festival will be able to participate in all kinds of traditional country sports and games as well as watch folk dances, listen to music and enjoy the various exhibitions.

The games will include such old favourites as tossing the horseshoe, marbles, hopscotch, tug of war and egg and spoon and sack races, while lots of target practice will be needed in the archery, catapult and seven stones events.

Agility, stamina and balance will be the key factors in such events as the skipping, hoola hoop and the dancer (jumping a rope tied to a tennis ball that is spun round from a hoop attached to one ankle) competitions.

Apart from the children's museum, visitors will be able to see exhibitions of children's books, scientific games, children's art, computers, and a display that shows how many toys and several of the games played at the festival can be made from objects found at home.

Finally, cakes, hotdogs and popcorn among much else will be available from a food tent.

Nominal fees will be charged for entry and participation while less than normal fees will be charged for the use of the centre's usual facilities.

Opening from 10 a.m. until 2 p.m. and again from 3 p.m. to 6 p.m. daily, the festival will run



for five days. All the money raised will go to the Mobile Life and Science Museum Project, as will the funds from two concerts to be given on April 7 and 8 at the Palace of Culture by the local group Mirage.

The project, to initiate the Mobile Life and Science Museum, was prompted by the success of the Children's Heritage and Science Museum, established at the Haya Arts Centre in 1986.

Like the Children's Heritage and Science Museum, the Mobile museum will have exhibits that are designed in such a way that young visitors are given a hands-

Ophthalmologic conference opens
Hamzeh stresses importance of health care programme

AMMAN (Petra) — The first Jordanian ophthalmologic conference opened at the University of Jordan's faculty of engineering Wednesday under the patronage of His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan.

Nearly 120 delegates from Jordan, Arab and foreign countries will discuss 37 working papers dealing with various forms of eye diseases and their treatment.

Health Minister Zaid Hamzeh, who deputised for Prince Hassan, opened the conference with a speech in which he stressed the importance of a primary health care programme being implemented by the Health Ministry in Jordan.

Hamzeh noted that integrated health centres are being opened in all regions, and hospital services are being developed and modernised in a bid to cope with

the growing needs, and to meet a U.N. target to provide health services to all people by the year 2000.

The chairman of the conference's executive committee made a speech in which he reviewed the history of eye surgery in Jordan, and said that major developments have been achieved in this field over the past few years.

The Jordanian Ophthalmologists Society President Abdul Mu'iz Shawar spoke about the society's development and activities which include seminars and lectures on eye treatment.

According to the preparatory committee, diseases like diabetes, the employment of laser beams in diagnosing and treating eye ailments and dealing with eye inflammation, are among subjects to be taken up by the participants in the three-day conference.

Following the opening of the conference a medical exhibition was inaugurated displaying a variety of equipment used in the eye treatment and surgery and also eye medications.

More than 20 local and international firms and factories have displayed samples of these products for the benefit of the participants.

Representatives of Jordanian Universities, the Royal Medical Services and the Jordan Medical Association were present at the opening session.



Health Minister Zaid Hamzeh speaks at the opening of the first Jordanian Ophthalmologic Conference in Amman Wednesday (Petra photo)

Ureikat to head team for Tunis talks

AMMAN (Petra) — The cabinet Wednesday formed Jordan's delegation to the Arab Ministers of Social Affairs Executive Council meetings due to open in Tunis on April 12.

The delegation will be led by Minister of Labour and Social Development Rashid Ureikat.

The cabinet, which met under the chairmanship of Deputy Prime Minister Thouqan Hindawi, decided that Minister of Agriculture Marwan Hmoud pay a visit to Syria in the coming month with the purpose of touring agricultural projects.

The cabinet also decided that Jordan should take part in an Arab telecommunications meeting due to be held in Damascus on April 11.

Ministry of Awqaf discusses transportation of pilgrims

AMMAN (Petra and J.T.) — Arrangements for the coming pilgrimage season in Saudi Arabia and the provision of means of transport for Jordanian pilgrims were among topics discussed at a meeting held Wednesday at the Ministry of Awqaf and Islamic Affairs.

Representatives of concerned departments, transport companies and the traffic department were present at the meeting which discussed resting places for the pilgrims on the way to the holy places.

Ministry of Awqaf and Islamic Affairs which takes charge of

pilgrims affairs said it will allow no more than 15,000 pilgrims from Jordan and the occupied Arab territories to perform this year's pilgrimage in Mecca, in view of the great numbers of Muslims converging on Saudi Arabia, and the limited accommodation facilities available in that country for pilgrims.

According to ministry officials no less than 200 air conditioned buses will be used to transport the pilgrims from Jordan to Saudi Arabia and back during the coming pilgrimage season; and ministry medical missions will accompany pilgrims on their journey.



Health Minister Zaid Hamzeh receives North Yemeni Health Minister Sadeq Alloush in Amman Wednesday (Petra photo)

North Yemeni health minister arrives for talks

AMMAN (Petra + J.T.) — North Yemen's Health Minister Sadeq Alloush arrived in Amman Wednesday evening to take part in the Arab health ministers executive bureau meeting due to open here Friday, and the 13th meeting of the Arab Health Ministers Council which starts Sunday.

Health Ministry officials here said that the Arab health ministers will discuss health conditions in the occupied Arab territories, and means of bolstering inter-Arab cooperation in the field of health.

On the executive bureau are delegates from Jordan, Iraq, Kuwait, Morocco, Tunisia,

Sudan and North Yemen. Health Minister Zaid Hamzeh, who greeted his North Yemeni counterpart at the airport, had said that his talks with Dr. Alloush will cover North Yemeni-Jordanian cooperation, which includes the employment of Jordanian doctors in North Yemen's hospitals and health centres.

The minister said that North Yemen was expected to offer employment to 300 Jordanian doctors, to become the second Arab country to employ Jordanian doctors services after Libya.

Libya recently concluded contracts with 160 Jordanian doctors and specialists.

SUMMER TIME

We draw the attention of the public that Jordan will switch to summer time as of April 1, 1988, in accordance with a cabinet decision. Clocks will be put forward by 60 minutes at 12 midnight (tonight) Thursday, March 31, 1988, for the summer time that will last until October 7, 1988.

The decision was taken to enable members of the public to benefit from long daylight hours during the summer season.

CONTINUED FROM PAGE ONE

Four killed, 60 wounded in occupied West Bank and Gaza

(Continued from page 1)
police but dispersed quickly.
At the nearby village of Kafar, about 2,500 demonstrators chanted slogans and called for the creation of a Palestinian state.

The Arabic and English news services of the PPS were closed by an order signed by the commander of Israel's central military district, Major-General Avram Mitzna.

The PPS will be permitted to continue publishing its weekly magazines in both languages.

The closure was the latest stage in a crackdown on the reporting of the uprising, which included barring the press from the occupied territories for three days except with military escort.

Relatives of the woman killed at the village of Deir Abu Mashal Wednesday identified her as Waheida Yusuf Rabin. Her husband Yusuf, 85, and sons Musa, 22, and Issa, 28, were being treated at Ramallah hospital for gunshot wounds.

Doctors at Ramallah Hospital told the AP in a telephone interview that troops entered the home of Rabin while she and her family were eating breakfast and fatally shot her in the head.

"The soldiers came in and asked if there were any men in the house," Rabin's 17-year-old daughter, Zeinab, said in quotes relayed by a visitor to the hospital.

She said she told the troops no men were home, but they entered anyway. A soldier shot one brother who started to run and other family members then lunged towards the troops, who opened fire, she said.

There was a complete commercial strike in Arab Jerusalem and protests in nearby suburbs, including rock-throwing in Issawiya and waving of Palestinian flags in Beit Hanina and Abu Tor.

Protesters threw stones at passenger buses on four separate occasions at the entrance to Nazareth as well as at a police jeep which arrived to disperse them. Two people were detained.

Several Palestinians were arrested in the mixed Jewish-Arab town of Acre on the Mediterranean coast for raising Palestinian flags while activists vainly tried to force Arab merchants to close their shops in Jaffa, Israel Radio said.

Witnesses quoted by Reuters said Syrian army buses brought several hundred people to the Syrian side of the 1973 ceasefire line with Israel on the Golan Heights.

They demonstrated opposite the town of Majdal Shams, where 100 local residents shouted anti-Israeli slogans. Police did not intervene.

At Amari refugee camp near Ramallah on the West Bank was placed under curfew after stones were thrown at troops there, sources said.

Telephone lines to the Gaza Strip remained severed and troops warned on loudspeakers that curfew violators would be shot. Both Gaza and the West Bank were closed to most outside traffic, with only the area's 65,000 Jewish settlers permitted to travel freely.

An AP reporter in Beit Sahour, where tradition says shepherds first spotted the star marking where Christ was born, saw roadblocks of bulldozers, rusted barrels, twisted metal and garbage blocking dozens of winding streets. Four tyres smouldered nearby.

Robert Slater, head of the foreign press association, said he was pleased the court ordered the government to explain why journalists should not have free access to the territories.

"The court sent a signal to the government that it cannot close the Gaza Strip and the West Bank entirely to the foreign press," he said. "We were fighting for the principle. We consider this a great victory."

Britain rebuked Israel Wednesday for sealing off the occupied territories.

"We understand Israeli concerns. But we believe the measures now in force in the occupied territories are disproportionate, affecting all Palestinians," said a Foreign Office spokesman, who was not identified according to British practice.

"Intensifying the military occupation is not the answer. Nor will legitimate Palestinian grievances be wished away by repression. We believe negotiations are the only way forward," he said.

Some 90 Arabs have been arrested in Arab Jerusalem since the unrest began Dec. 8, Israel Radio said.

Israeli Defence Minister Yitzhak Rabin said Tuesday night more than 4,000 Palestinians were being held in Israeli jails, including some held without trial. The figure was 25 per cent higher than the one Rabin gave last week.

Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir warned that those Israeli Arabs who took part in demonstrations would be severely punished.

"Those daring to raise a hand against our people and our right to live in peace and security in our own country will pay a heavy price," he warned in a statement carried by the local Ium news agency.

In the northern town of Umm al-Fahm, Arabs demonstrated Tuesday to show solidarity with Palestinians in the occupied territories.

A large police contingent was positioned at the entrance to the town and a police helicopter hovered above the crowd.

"We are demonstrating for the right of Arab Palestinian people for self-determination, for a Palestinian state in the occupied territories," Israeli Radio quoted the town's Mayor Hashem Mahmud as saying.



Michel Sabbah

Sabbah: Uprising is normal reaction to occupation

ROME (R) — The Latin (Roman Catholic) patriarch of Jerusalem was quoted Wednesday as saying the Palestinian uprising in the occupied territories was a normal reaction to Israeli occupation and called for direct Palestinian involvement in talks on a peace settlement.

The comments by Patriarch Michel Sabbah, a Palestinian and the first Arab to hold the post, were his most forthright on the situation since his appointment in December shortly after the uprising in the West Bank and Gaza began.

"It is normal for the people to rebel and say 'enough' after 20 years of occupation," Sabbah told the Italian newspapers La Repubblica and Il Messaggero.

"I hope all this suffering will not be in vain, that this clear expression against such long military occupation will make people understand it has to end."

Sabbah said Israel should hold a referendum among Palestinians in the territories, asking them who they wanted to represent them and negotiate a settlement based on equal rights.

He would not say if he would like the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) to represent Palestinians. "As a Palestinian I would like to be represented by Palestinians who represent the majority of Palestinians. Ask the people, they will decide," Sabbah said.

Sabbah last week cancelled a traditional Palm Sunday procession in Jerusalem because of fears of violence stemming from the uprising, but he said other ceremonies during holy week, marking Christ's crucifixion and resurrection, would go ahead.

"The feasts of holy week and the commemoration of the suffering of Christ are perfectly suited to these days. We shall pray for peace and justice," Sabbah said. "Every Palestinian has a cross to bear."

Senior Libyan official visited Cairo seeking better ties

CAIRO (AP) — A high-ranking Libyan official paid a secret visit to Egypt recently in an apparent effort to improve strained relations between the two countries, a state-owned magazine said.

In its edition appearing Thursday, the weekly Al-Mussawwar said the Libyan envoy, colonel Abdul Fattah Yunis Farag, made the visit this month after Cairo sent back four Libyan jet-fighters they were forced to land in Egypt March 1 because of bad weather and fuel shortage.

The Associated Press obtained an advance copy of the magazine.

Al-Mussawwar said Farag, chief of the eastern military zone on the border with Egypt, came to thank President Hosni Mubarak for allowing the return of the Soviet-built MiG-23s.

The magazine did not specify whether Farag actually had met with Mubarak, but said the Libyan official was expected to return soon to "continue talks with the Egyptian leadership."

Al-Mussawwar described Farag as close to Libyan leader Muammar Qadhafi. It said he paid numerous visits to Egypt previously, attempting to "open a dialogue," but without much success.

The report of Farag's visit came amid a series of good-will gestures exchanged between the two countries, which have been at

political odds since 1972 and fought a five-day border war in 1977. They have maintained large numbers of troops astride the border since the war.

In a dramatic turnaround, Qadhafi said in a speech Monday he was withdrawing his forces from the border with Egypt and was asking nothing in return.

He also vowed Libya would not use force to get Mubarak's government to renounce its 1979 treaty with Israel, a major shift from long-standing hostility to Cairo.

His promises came soon after Libya freed and repatriated 36 Egyptian prisoners, among them three soldiers whose return Mubarak had publicly requested.

Egypt simultaneously sent home five Libyan air force men who flew over last year in three defection cases but did not request asylum.

The Libyan overtures apparently were in response to Egypt's decision to send back the MiG-23s, which Mubarak said was partly at the urging of Saudi Arabia's King Fahd.

Egypt reacted cautiously to Qadhafi's troop withdrawal

announcement. Butros Ghali, minister of state for foreign affairs, said in a brief statement: "Egyptian diplomacy welcomes any step that strengthens relations between Egypt and Libya."

Expressing scepticism, Defence Minister Abdul Halim Abu Ghazala told Egyptian reporters covering his current visit to Washington that Qadhafi's statements were "repetitious words, with unknown aims."

Diplomatic sources in Cairo also expressed doubt about Qadhafi's move, calling it "game-playing," and attributing it to Qadhafi's growing sense of isolation in the Arab World.

Libyan-Egyptian relations began to sour with Egypt's rejection in 1972 of a Qadhafi bid for an immediate merger. They worsened with Qadhafi's bid for an immediate merger.

They worsened with Qadhafi's denunciation of the 1978 American-mediated Camp David agreements that led to the Egyptian-Israeli treaty a year later.

Reports have indicated that Sudanese head of state Ahmad Ali Mirghani played a key role in the apparent thaw in Egyptian-Libyan relations. Mirghani visited Libya earlier this month in what Sudanese newspapers described as a bid to bring Cairo and Tripoli closer. There were no subsequent reports on results of Mirghani's talks with Qadhafi and other Libyan leaders.

Jordan marks Land Day with rallies and pledge of support

(Continued from page 1)
Palestinian and Jordanian flags and banners calling for Arab support for the uprising and denouncing the new American peace proposal presented by U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz.

Around 300 students led a march around the campus, shouting slogans such as "With our souls, with our blood, we will redeem Palestine." About 800 students walked alongside the demonstration.

At the University of Science and Technology, Palestine National Council (PNC) Speaker Sheikh Abdul Hamid Al-Saei, Lower House of Parliament member Laith Shubailat and Dr. Assad Abdul Rahman delivered speeches praising the

uprising and calling for full support for Palestinian steadfastness.

In Amman, a rally was held at the Professional Association Complex. Several prominent Jordanians and Palestinians delivered speeches stressing the importance of Arab unity and the need to take a united Arab stand against peace proposals which do not guarantee the Palestinian people their given rights.

The speakers denounced the Shultz plan and called upon the Palestinian people not to budge from rejection of all attempts to abort the uprising until achieves its goals.

In Zarqa, a rally was held in which citizens of the area praised the steadfastness of the

uprising and the financial support which it is receiving from Jordan.

In Karak, Governor Mohammad Hussein Al-Shoubaki voiced Jordan's pride in the uprising. Other speakers at the

Karak rally praised the achievements of the uprising.

Demonstrations were also held in the Wihdat and Baqaa refugee camps on the outskirts of Amman.

Iranian boats attack Bubiyan

(Continued from page 1)
The speedboats sped off eastward to the Iranian side of the Gulf.

The attack came only a few days after the Kuwaitis had approached Tehran, seeking to improve relations that deteriorated sharply seven months ago.

Soon after Wednesday's shooting, Kuwait's Foreign Ministry summoned Iranian Charge d'Affaires Mohammad Farouq where he was handed a strongly worded protest.

"A ministry statement, broadcast by Kuwait Radio, said Under-Secretary Sulaiman Majed Al-Shaheen condemned the "unprovoked acts toward Kuwait, which is still doing its utmost to bring the hostilities between the two Muslim neighbours to an end."

"This violation of Kuwait's security and sovereignty will undoubtedly enhance the exacerbation of the already dangerous situation in the region and have consequences which will not serve the quest of security and stability in the region," it said.

Sheikh Sabah said last week that two Kuwaiti diplomats were ready to return to Tehran to reopen the Kuwaiti embassy there.

It was closed seven months ago after an Iranian mob attacked it in retaliation for the slaying of 275 Iranian pilgrims in riots in Mecca.

Relations sank further in September after Iranian missiles hit Al-Ahmedi, used by 11 Kuwaiti tankers refuelled with the U.S. flag to afford them U.S. navy protection from Iranian attack.

One of the refuelled tankers was hit by a Silkworm and Kuwait expelled five Iranian diplomats, leaving only two to run their embassy in Kuwait.

Tehran Radio quoted an Iranian spokesman as saying the Kuwaiti report was part of a "propaganda" plot to create an image of insecurity in the Gulf to justify the U.S. military presence in the waterway.

The Iranian spokesman said Iranian gunboats routinely patrolled the Khawr 'Abd Allah waterway between Bubiyan Island and Fao and nothing unusual had happened Wednesday.

The spokesman said that Tuesday "three Kuwaiti" boats which were spying for Iraq were arrested and taken to an Iranian port for investigations.

In Amman, a senior cabinet minister reaffirmed Jordan's solidarity with Kuwait.

"We condemn the Iranian aggression against Kuwait," Information Minister Hani Al-Khasawneh told Reuters.

"It reveals the intransigent nature of the present Iranian government and we consider it a provocation against Kuwait. There is no reason for it except a desire for aggression."

"We always support and stand beside Kuwait," Khasawneh said.

Iran's delegation walked out of a meeting of Organisation of Islamic Conference (OIC) foreign ministers in Amman last week in protest at OIC resolutions, including one which urged Tehran to obey a U.N. ceasefire call in the Gulf war.

Khasawneh said the attack on Kuwait was "an insult to the work of the Islamic conference."

Egypt also condemned the Iranian attack on Bubiyan and said it would lead to further deterioration in the Gulf situation.

"We vehemently denounce Iran's aggression on Kuwait which is not a party in the (Iran-Iraq) conflict," Foreign Minister Esmat Abdul Meguid told reporters.

"The aggression will only lead to a further deterioration of the situation and undermine peace and stability in the Gulf region."

"It also constitutes a challenge to world efforts aimed at seeking a peaceful settlement of this conflict," he said.

President Hosni Mubarak last October pledged Egypt's full support for Kuwait and vowed to help defend it after the Iranian missile attacks against oil targets.

PLO said to agree to Shultz meeting

(Continued from page 1)
"Shultz has always viewed Palestinian participation as very important," one U.S. official said privately. "It was hoped that this move would improve chances for that involvement and thus for the success of the U.S. peace plan."

Rabash calls for boycott
In Tripoli, Libya, Palestinian leader George Habash urged Palestinians Tuesday to boycott the upcoming Middle East peace mission by Shultz.

"I call upon the revolutionary leadership and PLO leadership to boycott the Shultz visit as they did the first time," said Habash, leader of the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine (PFLP).

"If the American administration is sincere in finding a just solution for the Middle East it must recognise the PLO as the sole legitimate representative of Palestinian people," it must recognise the legitimate rights of Palestinian people, that is self-determination and an independent Palestinian state and reject the notion that we're a second class people," he told a news conference in Tripoli.

Habash said the Palestinians don't trust the U.S. administration "so we prefer a solution comes from the United Nations."

One of the Palestinian-Americans who met Shultz last week said he had

the approval of Arafat before the meeting.

"We informed Arafat about the Shultz invitation and he gave us his blessing," Abu Lughud told Al-Bayan newspaper Wednesday in an interview from Washington.

Asked whether Arafat gave them any instructions, he said: "Of course he can give us instructions, but he did not. All that he said was I trust that you will convey the Palestinian viewpoint including the PLO's."

Abu Lughud told Al-Bayan most of the talking during the hour-long meeting was done by Shultz, who said "Palestinians to peace talks should be trustworthy and really represent the Palestinian people."

"But we told him (Shultz) that there is one representative of the Palestinians, which is the PLO," Abu Lughud said.

He said Shultz did not decide whether there should be another meeting, but said that "if we have anything to say, we can call him (Shultz)."

"During the meeting we made clear that Palestinian self-determination must be the basis for any peace talks, which should involve an independent Palestinian delegation on behalf of the PLO," he said.

Asked what was Shultz's answer, he said: "He told us that this matter is among other things that should be tackled."

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AMMAN JORDAN

Vassiliou flies to London

LARNACA (AP) — President George Vassiliou flew to London Wednesday for talks with Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher on efforts to reunite war-divided Cyprus by reopening stalled negotiations under United Nations auspices.

Vassiliou, 56, is accompanied by Foreign Minister George Iacovou and senior aides.

He made no statement before he left. But he declared Tuesday that he expected a "very productive and useful meeting" with Thatcher Thursday.

Vassiliou's visit to London will be his second foreign trip since he was elected in February. He flew to Athens earlier this month for a summit meeting with Greek Prime Minister George Papandreu on the future of Cyprus.

His talks with Thatcher will be important because the British leader is scheduled to meet Turkish Prime Minister Turgut Ozal in Ankara.

Vassiliou has asked Thatcher to act as an intermediary with the Turkish leader.

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UAE sees scheme a must Saudi Arabia shelves plans to issue government bonds

BAHRAIN (R) — Saudi Arabia has postponed indefinitely plans to issue government bonds to cover its expected 1988 budget deficit of 35.9 billion riyals (\$9.6 billion), bankers in the kingdom said Tuesday.

It would have been Saudi Arabia's first major borrowing for 25 years, but bankers said opposition from the kingdom's religious hierarchy and indecision on how to issue the bonds led to the scheme being shelved.

Bankers said they had been told by senior government officials last week that Riyadh planned instead to tap funds with selected government agencies to cover the shortfall.

"Bonds will only be issued as a last resort," said one senior banker.

Tapping social funds

The bankers said the kingdom's planners had opted to draw down reserves with government agencies such as the Public Investment Fund (PIF) and the General Organisation for Social Insurance (GOSI).

Such reserves are estimated at more than 75 billion riyals, the equivalent of \$20 billion.

King Fahd announced in his 1988 budget address at the end of December that the kingdom would issue bonds of up to 30 billion riyals (\$8 billion) rather than bridge the deficit through a drawdown of the country's foreign reserves.

A series of budget deficits since 1983 have eaten away Saudi Arabia's reserves and bankers had welcomed the government's plans to issue bonds as a major step towards developing capital markets within the kingdom.

But bankers said the plan was plagued by opposition from the conservative religious hierarchy which has often been at odds with the country's Western-style banking system.

Bankers said there was also indecision on the proposed yield for government bonds and how they would be placed. It was widely assumed they would be issued at a deep discount or in

zero coupon form to avoid offending Islamic objections to the Western concept of interest payments.

Investment confidence weakens

Bankers said uncertainty over the bond issue — there had been hardly a word said officially since late December — had undermined local investment confidence, especially as several large share flotations are being offered now.

In addition, uncertainty had at times paralysed the rival bank market, with bank treasurers in Saudi Arabia finding it difficult to manage liquidity without knowing how or when a first offering of government bonds might be launched.

Bankers said the government's decision to tap GOSI reserves means a proposed refund of workers' contributions to the fund would probably be delayed as well.

Until last year, every worker employed in the kingdom paid five per cent of salary to GOSI for social insurance, with this being matched by an eight per cent contribution from employers.

But payments were stopped last year amid government promises that paid-in contributions would be refunded.

Strain on budget may stay

Bankers said the decision to postpone the bonds scheme marked another setback for government plans to bridge the budget deficit and take the strain off the country's finances.

In early January, the Saudi government climbed down over controversial plans to tax foreigners after protests from the kingdom's estimated four million expatriate workers.

The drive for new sources of

funds — and bonds would have tapped high levels of liquidity at kingdom banks — has been stepped up as oil revenues decline and foreign reserves show signs of dwindling after the constant drain of deficits.

The level of Saudi Arabia's foreign reserves remains a closely guarded secret, but bankers say liquid assets are still around \$30 billion.

However, Saudi Arabia is now earning just one fifth of the \$100 billion a year it took in from oil exports in 1981.

The 1988 budget forecasts oil revenue of 68.935 billion riyals, the equivalent of \$18.4 billion.

UAE stresses need to issue bonds

United Arab Emirates (UAE) Central Bank Governor Abdul Malek Al Hammar said in Abu Dhabi that the UAE must issue bonds to finance the nation's persistent budget deficit and tackle the problem caused by falling oil prices.

He warned that the recent decline on the world oil market would raise the deficit on this year's combined federal and local budget for the confederation of seven emirates.

Al Hammar told Reuters in an interview: "Bonds have become indispensable to tackle the (budget) problem."

The UAE said early this month it would issue bonds worth between two billion and three billion dirhams (\$540 to \$800 million), but was not said when they will be floated.

Attracting overseas fund

Sharp spending cuts and the introduction of import taxes and services fees have failed to eliminate UAE budget deficits in the face of declining oil prices.

Al Hammar said: "Issuing of medium and long-term bonds would not only radically cut the deficit but also would attract part of our overseas investment and help remove constraints on government plans due to unstable oil prices."

Prices of fruits, vegetables rise

AMMAN (J.T.) — Prices of vegetables and fruits in Jordanian markets are relatively high compared with prices two weeks ago, largely due to a short supply of these commodities, according to Al Dustour newspaper, quoting Ministry of Supply sources.

The report said that due to the fact that some products were nearing the end of a season while others are just beginning, coupled with a prolonged rainy season have all helped to raise prices.

General Mining to distribute 8% in dividends

AMMAN (J.T.) — The General Mining Company announced that it realised JD 100,830 in profits from 1987 operations, against JD 126,579 in the previous year.

The company board of directors has decided to distribute dividends to shareholders at the rate of eight per cent.

Course on bank guarantees ends

AMMAN (Petra) — A week-long training course on banking guarantees organised by the Industrial Development Bank ended in Amman Wednesday.

A total of 17 participants, representing banks and financial institutions in the Kingdom, took part in the course which aimed at raising the skill and efficiency of bankers regarding the subject of guarantees.

Swedish economist lectures on exchange rates strategy

AMMAN (J.T.) — Swedish economist Hans Soederstrom Tuesday delivered a lecture at the Association of Banks in Jordan (ABJ) on rate exchange strategies and the corrections taking place since 1970.

Soederstrom dwelt on experiments by small European countries, and especially Sweden, in this respect.

He stressed that the economies of these countries were faced with three intertwining problems in the 1970s, namely: An increase in the relative cost of labour, the reorganisation of industry, and the need for new trends in exchange rates, especially following

Jordan French, Universal Insurance to merge soon

AMMAN (J.T.) — The Jordan French Insurance Company is to merge with Universal Insurance Company in accordance with a decision by the general assemblies of the two companies.

A report in Al Dustour newspaper said that Jordan French Insurance Company's board of directors has been entrusted with making arrangements for the merger in a manner that can safe-

guard the interests of the shareholders.

The Universal Insurance Company's general assembly met in December and decided on the merger which according to the report, will take place soon.

The Jordan French Insurance Company this year distributed dividends to its shareholders at the rate of 52 per cent.

Board of Saudi-Jordanian company hold first meeting

AMMAN (Petra) — The board of directors of the joint Jordanian-Saudi Arabian Industrial Agricultural Investment Company held its first meeting here Wednesday under the chairmanship of Saudi Arabia's under-secretary of the ministry of finance and economy.

The Saudi undersecretary said that the setting up of the joint company was a new step towards creating channels for further cohesion and bondage between Saudi Arabia and Jordan.

This new company, he said,

plans to execute industrial and agricultural projects in the two countries, serving their respective national economies.

The board members discussed the company's plans, potential projects, bylaws and administrative issues.

The company, set up upon a decision from the Joint Jordanian-Saudi Arabian Higher Committee, has a \$50 million capital, shared equally by the two sides.

At the end of the meeting it was decided that the board will reconvene meetings in June.

Indonesia begins reforms by annulling contract body

JAKARTA (R) — The Indonesian government announced Wednesday it was scrapping a controversial team empowered to award all government purchase contracts over \$300,000.

Newly appointed coordinating

minister for economy, finance and industry Rudi Prawiro told a news conference the move was in line with planned economic reforms.

He said government departments and agencies would be entrusted to make their own purchases in the future.

"The president's decree will simplify the process of procuring goods for government projects. But supervision will still be carried out by the state auditing body," he said.

The government is pledged to maintain the pace of economic reform begun after the oil price crash in 1986, designed to make Indonesia's protected economy more competitive and less reliant on oil exports.

The new decree takes effect on April 1. It allows managers and project chiefs to make purchases of up to \$300,000, department directors from \$300,000 to \$600,000 and cabinet ministers from \$600,000 to \$1.8 million.

Purchases above that must be approved by the coordinating minister.

India announces landmark trade policy

NEW DELHI (R) — India unveiled Wednesday wide-ranging measures to raise exports and liberalise controls on imports of high technology and capital goods to boost the drought-hit economy.

Finance Minister Narain Dutti Tiwari told reporters India's second three-year import-export policy starting in April 1 "had been framed in the backdrop of our ultimate objective to wipe out the trade deficit in the foreseeable future."

India's trade deficit in the first 10 months of fiscal 1987/88 narrowed seven per cent to \$4.25 billion rupees (\$4.1 billion) from last year, due largely to lower costs of oil imports, Tiwari said.

"Although this is welcome, the

persistent trade deficits continue to be a cause for concern," he said.

India's total 1986/87 trade deficit hit 75.17 billion rupees (\$5.8 billion), down from a high of 87.63 billion (\$6.7 billion) in 1985/86.

Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi began reforms to modernise the country's agriculture-based economy when he took office in 1984.

Businessmen and economists said the pace of liberalisation pace has slowed as Gandhi sought to counter criticism his policies primarily benefited the affluent.

Tiwari said "it is our earnest endeavour that the exporter should be enabled to devote his time and energy in obtaining concessions and facilities from the government."

Tiwari added 745 more items, including capital goods and raw materials, to the open general licence scheme, under which ex-

ported-oriented manufacturers can import without applying for licences. There are now about 2,500 items under the scheme.

He said exporters badly needed to import capital goods, even if these were available in the domestic market, because lower international prices would help Indian firms remain viable in the world market.

Under the plan, Indian firms could import large computers with disk storage capacity of at least 1,000 megabytes.

Tiwari said 26 bulk purchase items currently imported by the public sector would be de-centralised to the private sector.

He also relaxed controls to increase incentives to local industries which sell most of their products to export-oriented firms, saying there would be great foreign exchange savings if these firms become internationally competitive.

Economists forecast India's economic growth slowing to about 1.5 per cent in 1987/88 from 4.1 per cent last year due to last summer's severe drought.

AMMAN FINANCIAL MARKET

Activity on the Amman Financial Market for Wednesday March 30, 1988.

	Number	Volume	Contracts
Regular market:	379072	JD 424,293	502
Top three companies			
Intermediate Petrochemicals	42600	JD 59,408	77
Universal Insurance	41925	JD 50,452	59
Jordan Chemical Industries	23800	JD 39,704	21
Parallel market:	19150	JD 11,585	—
Development bonds:	—	—	—
Treasury bills & bonds:	—	—	—

LONDON EXCHANGE RATES

LONDON (R) — Following are the buying and selling rates for leading world currencies and gold against the dollar at midday on the London foreign exchange and bullion markets Wednesday.

One Sterling	1.8625/35	U.S. dollar
One U.S. dollar	1.2360/70	Canadian dollar
	1.6660/70	Deutsche marks
	1.8705/15	Dutch guilders
	1.3767/77	Swiss francs
	34.87/92	Belgian francs
	5.6480/6510	French francs
	1233/1234	Italian lire
	124.90/125.00	Japanese yen
	5.8940/90	Swedish crowns
	6.2750/2800	Norwegian crowns
	6.3865/3915	Danish crowns
One ounce of gold	454.70/455.20	U.S. dollars

WORLD STOCK MARKETS

SYDNEY — Shares closed sharply higher as confidence returned after strong performances on international markets overnight. The All Ordinaries index gained 20.4 to 1,416.4.

TOKYO — Prices rose for the third consecutive day on enthusiasm stemming from the start of a new fiscal year and gains by Wall Street and the dollar. The Nikkei index surged up 366.98 to 26,320.07, its second biggest rise this year.

HONG KONG — Prices closed steady but profit-taking eroded most of their early gains. The Hang Seng index was up 7.31 at 2,528.92.

SINGAPORE — Shares rose across the board on speculative buying and bargain-hunting after four days of declines. The Straits Times industrial index gained 10.72 to 930.07.

BOMBAY — Prices fell on renewed speculative selling ahead of a long weekend holiday. Dealers reported heavy profit-taking. The market will be closed until Monday.

FRANKFURT — Prices fell back from a higher opening to close mixed as operators squared positions ahead of the Easter break. The Commerzbank index, set at mid-session, was up 5.7 at 1,379.7.

ZURICH — Prices were steady, underpinned by Wall Street's overnight gain and the slightly firmer dollar. The All Share Swiss index rose 1.2 to 817.1.

PARIS — Prices were lower in thin trade with most investors unwilling to commit themselves in a sluggish market ahead of France's presidential election next month. The 50-share board indicator declined by 0.41 per cent.

LONDON — Prices drifted down on lack of buying interest ahead of the Easter weekend holiday break. At 1445 GMT the FTSE 100 index was down 6.9 at 1,758.2.

NEW YORK — Stocks showed moderate gains in early trading, helped by a slight rise in the dollar against the yen. The Dow gained six to 2,004.

Reserves for debtor loans put British bank in red

LONDON (R) — Standard Chartered Plc, Britain's fifth biggest bank, said Wednesday that it lost money in 1987 because of the cost of setting up reserves to cover possible losses on loans to debtor countries.

Midland Bank and Lloyds Bank, Britain's third and fourth biggest banks, last month said similar provisions put them in the red for 1987.

Analysts say those were the first losses made by major British banks in this century. Besides the provisions, Standard Chartered said that bad and doubtful loans in Canada and Malaysia as well as by its California and Arizona units — which it is selling off — hit its results.

The bank, which also sold off its remaining interests in South Africa last year, said it lost \$274 million (\$510 million) before taxes in 1987. Its 1986 pre-tax profit was \$254 million (\$472 million).

"1987 has turned out to be a year in which the group was beset by a series of difficult problems," said chairman Sir Peter Graham. Standard Chartered made a charge of \$234 million (\$435 million) for bad and doubtful debts in 1987, up 27 per cent from 1986. "While a large part of this heavy charge was undoubtedly

due to economic reasons, management failure was also a significant factor," Graham said. "Re-medial action has been taken."

About 90 per cent of the total involved loans made in Malaysia and Canada and loans made by Union Bank of California and United Bank of Arizona.

Standard Chartered is selling Union Bank, California's fifth biggest, to a Bank of Tokyo affiliate for \$750 million, while the Arizona Bank is going to Citicorp for \$210 million.

It also sold its remaining 39 per cent interest in a South African bank last year.

Standard Chartered said that, as of the end of 1987, it had lent a total of \$2.47 billion (\$4.59 billion) to 32 countries designated as having problems paying off their debt.

But it set aside \$519 million (\$965 million) last year in a reserve to cover possible losses on these loans. The loans include \$634 million (\$1.18 billion) in South Africa, \$390 million (\$725 million) in Nigeria, \$325 million (\$604 million) in Mexico and \$311 million (\$578 million) in Brazil.



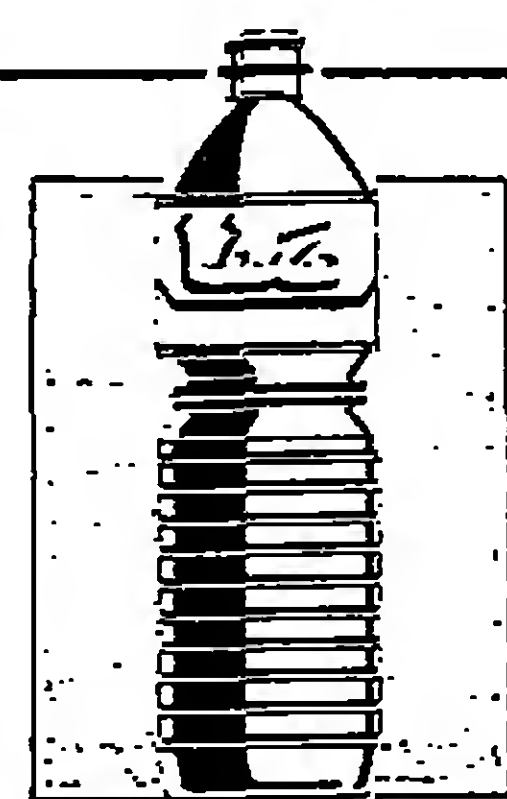
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Tel: 677420

STITCHES

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SPORTS IN BRIEF

Greece welcomes England's return to Europe

ATHENS (R) — Greek sports authorities said Tuesday they would not oppose the re-admission of English clubs into European soccer. The Greek General Secretariat of Athletics said it had no objections to Greek sides playing English teams in the European Cup. It said in a statement it was replying to a question from the European Football Union (UEFA) sent to member countries asking whether they wanted to resume playing against English teams. English clubs have been banned from European competitions since 1985 when Liverpool fans were largely blamed for the deaths of 39 people in a riot at the European Cup final in Belgium.

Cash and Noah join fight against AIDS

GENEVA (R) — Wimbledon champion Pat Cash of Australia and former French Open title-holder Yannick Noah of France will play in an exhibition tennis event here in May to help the campaign against AIDS. Sweden's Peter Lundgren and Frenchman Henri Leconte had also agreed to take part, organizers said.

Maguregui quits Celta, may join Atletico

MADRID (R) — Jose Maria Maguregui has resigned as coach of Spanish soccer club Celta, a club spokesman said Wednesday. He

is expected to join Atletico Madrid next season. Maguregui took over at Celta last summer after the dismissal of English coach Colin Addison who had just led them into the First Division. They are currently seventh in the league. Maguregui resigned Tuesday night after differences with the management over the running of the club, the spokesman said. Atletico Madrid president Jesus Gil expressed an interest in Maguregui last week after sacking former Argentine coach Luis Menotti after a run of six matches without a win. An Atletico spokesman said it was possible a decision on Maguregui would be taken next week.

FIFA group to inspect U.S. soccer sites

WASHINGTON (R) — FIFA, international soccer's governing body, next month will send a five-member commission to tour facilities proposed in the U.S. bid to host the 1994 World Cup, a U.S. soccer official said Tuesday. Paul Siehl, director of World Cup USA 1994, said the technical inspection group was scheduled to arrive in Washington for its week-long inspection tour April 10. The group, headed by West German Horst Schmidt, will visit 16 stadiums in 13 cities that the U.S. Soccer Federation has proposed as sites for the 1994 Championships. The special task force, named by FIFA president Joao Havelange, has already inspected stadiums in Brazil and Morocco, the two other countries in contention. FIFA's 21-member executive committee will announce its decision in Zurich July 4.

United manager gives high marks for Whiteside

MANCHESTER, England (R) — Manchester United manager Alex Ferguson warned Tuesday that his unsettled striker Norman Whiteside will cost a lot more than a million pounds sterling (\$1.87 million). "I have heard that figure mentioned and it's ridiculous," said Ferguson. "He is worth a lot more than that." United could ask something in the region of the £1.8 million (\$3.4 million) they received from Barcelona for Mark Hughes. And with the wealthy Italian clubs monitoring the situation Whiteside could achieve his dream of playing on the continent. "He has said he does not want to play for any other English club. It's unusual for a United player to want away, but I don't regret my decision to refuse him a five years extension to his contract. I did it in the interests of the club," Ferguson said.

Becker overcomes Gomez in WCT quarterfinals

DALLAS (AP) — Second-seeded Boris Becker of West Germany used his booming but erratic serve to overcome baseliner Andres Gomez of Ecuador, 6-4, 3-6, 6-2, 6-4 Tuesday night in the quarterfinals of the Buick World Championship Tennis finals.

Becker will meet Brad Gilbert in Thursday's semifinal. Gilbert upset Australia's Pat Cash, 7-6 (7-3), 4-6, 7-6 (7-1), 6-4 in Tuesday's other quarterfinal.

Wednesday night's quarterfinal matches pit Tim Mayotte against France's Yannick Noah and top-seeded Stefan Edberg of Sweden against Argentina's Martin Jaite.

Becker, ranked fourth in the world, used pinpoint serving to take control of the match in the third set. He broke Gomez's serve in the second and eighth games.

But in the fourth set Becker's serve deserted him briefly. The players traded service breaks from the sixth through the 10th games. Becker, serving for the match, double-faulted at 30-40 to narrow his lead to 5-4 and give Gomez hope.

But Becker broke back, cracking a cross-court winner at 15-40 to close out the match.

Gilbert, ranked 10th worldwide according to the Association of Tennis Professionals (ATP) computer and seeded sixth in the eight-man tournament, was making his 1988 debut after suffering the injury to his left ankle in December.

Gilbert took control of the match in the third set tiebreaker, then got a break in the first game of the fourth set.

Cash, seeded third, evened the final set by breaking back in the sixth game with a forehand winner down the line.

But Gilbert broke back again in the ninth game with a forehand passing shot, then closed out the match in a deuce game. Gilbert pounded an ace at deuce, then wrapped up only his second victory over Cash in six career meetings when Cash's forehand went wide at match point.

GOREN BRIDGE

BY CHARLES GOREN
AND OMAR SHARAF
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TWO FOR THE PRICE OF ONE

North-South vulnerable. North deals.

NORTH
♠ 7
♥ A K 10 8
♦ 10 9 6 3
♣ K Q 7 2

EAST
♠ K 10 6 3
♥ 7 5 3 2
♦ A Q 7 5 2
♣ A 10 6 5

SOUTH
♠ Q J 9 5
♥ Q J 9 4
♦ K J
♣ A 9 3

The bidding:
North East South West
1 ♠ Pass 1 ♥ Pass
2 ♥ DM 3 NT Pass
4 ♥ Pass Pass Pass

Opening lead: Two of ♠

It might seem strange that in his new book devoted to when to lead trumps ("Everything You Always Wanted to Know About Trump Leads and Were Not Afraid to Ask," Devin Press, 158 pp., paperback, \$7.95), George Rosenkranz devotes more than half the space to non-trump leads. But then, in the words of the lyricist, you can't have one without the other. As the book points out sagely about trump leads: "When in doubt, don't!"

A classic case of a crucial trump lead occurred in an early round of the Vanderbilt Team Championship at the recent Spring North American Championships, held in St. Louis. When North insisted on a heart contract even though his partner showed a balanced hand, it was obvious he had a shortage somewhere. Sifting East-West for the eventual winners of the event were Peter Pender and Hugh Ross. Ross decided it was a good idea to limit dummy's ruffing power, so he led a trump. Declarer won on the table and led a diamond. Pender flew up with the ace and shifted to a spade, covered with the queen and taken by the ace. West persevered with trumps, declarer winning in hand as East discarded a club.

Declarer cashed the king of diamonds, ruffed a spade on the board and then tried three rounds of clubs. West ruffed and shot back a third trump, and declarer was stranded with two more losers. At the other table, four hearts was made, gaining 13 International Match Points for the Pender team.

If you didn't realize the auction above called for a trump lead, or if you are not sure when to lead trumps and when not to, this book is a cheap way to help resolve your doubts.

WEEK END CROSSWORD

Edited by Herb Etkens

SHOW BIZ

By Betty Jorgensen

- ACROSS**
1. Grande, Art.
 2. Place for corn
 3. Oh, well
 4. Sensitive true
 5. Sp. region
 6. A Turner
 7. South Walle
 8. Operating night
 9. Rites
 10. People in the
 11. Of an Alpine
 12. Ethnic group
 13. Composer of
 14. Samsara
 15. Empty
 16. City
 17. Satisfied
 18. Hawk's
 19. Weapons
 20. Bus. gp.
 21. Stir from sleep
 22. Sensitive true
 23. Create
 24. Operating like a
 25. 55 — do-best (round window)
 26. Soft milk
 27. Excitation
 28. 57 inspect
 29. 58 sanctum
 30. Scope
 31. Ancient Egypt
 32. Hat god
 33. Hit the Tarmac
 34. High nest
 35. 64 Ft. city
 36. Kind of show
 37. Durena's — "Diana Doe"
 38. 55 Corner
 39. Special persons
 40. Church rite
 41. 74 Featible
 42. "I — anything — thing"
 43. Use black letters
 44. "The greatest"
 45. 48 Angel
 46. Bean curd
 47. River to the
 48. 117 lights
 49. Porter or Ambler
 50. Song for
 51. 62
 52. Last number in a show
 53. 81 Hecley great
 54. 32 More uncanny
 55. 84 Prehistoric axes
 56. 85 Corner
 57. 99 Confronts
 58. 100 Acorn's parent
 59. 102 Street show
 60. Endured
 61. Suggestion to
 62. 109 Rites notices
 63. 112 Strikeland
 64. 115 Br. gun
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Blast, protests follow Paris ANC killing

PARIS (Agencies) — A bomb exploded close to South Africa's embassy in Paris early Wednesday, less than 24 hours after the French representative of the African National Congress (ANC) was shot dead here.

The powerful device, concealed in a plastic bag, exploded outside the offices of France's national tobacco company Seita about 100 metres from the embassy, witnesses said.

No one was injured in the blast, although there was major property damage, police said. There was no immediate claim of responsibility.

Earlier in the evening dozens of Communist protesters were arrested after they occupied the white-ruled republic's tourist office in Paris and buckshot was fired at the South African consulate in the southern city of Marseille.

Dulcie September, the ANC's representative for France, was shot dead by an unidentified killer as she opened her office Tuesday morning.

Police said they had no clues about the identity of the killer of September, aged in her 40s, but police sources said it appeared to be the work of professional assassins.

Anti-apartheid campaigners and Communist Party chief Georges Marchais blamed South Africa for the killing, and President Francois Mitterrand said the assassination was among "violent crimes that are caused by apartheid."

South African Foreign Minister P. W. Botha, in a statement in Pretoria, said his government was not responsible and suggested internal divisions within the ANC could be behind the killing.

ANC officials in Paris said September was shot several times at point blank range as she unlocked the anti-apartheid organisation's fourth-floor offices Tuesday morning. Her body was found later and her killer disappeared without trace.

Reaction in Marseille...

In the Mediterranean port city of Marseille, gunmen in two cars

sprayed buckshot at the South African consulate Tuesday night. No injuries were reported.

Police said slogans against South African President P.W. Botha including "Botha assassin" and "Botha SS" were daubed on the facade of the waterfront building.

... in Paris

In Paris, witnesses said several dozen young Communists stormed down a mid-town boulevard after a protest rally and smashed out windows at the South African tourism office.

One demonstrator was injured and two policemen suffered bruises.

A photographer for L'Humanite, the Communist Party newspaper, was admitted to hospital with head injuries after being beaten by plainclothes police, witnesses said.

At another rally outside the South African embassy, Socialist Party leader Lionel Jospin called on Prime Minister Jacques Chirac's centre-right government to find the killer.

Chirac, on a visit to the French Indian Ocean island of Reunion, said he was "shocked and scandalised" by the killing.

Mitterrand said the assassination, believed to be the first of an ANC official outside Africa, was among "the violent crimes that are caused by apartheid."

He said he would ask the Pretoria administration about the killing.

... in Cape Town

Pik Botha, responding in Cape Town to charges that South African agents killed September, said his government was not responsible. He suggested that a power struggle within the ANC could be behind the murder.

Marchais called for an immediate break in diplomatic, commercial, cultural and sports relations with South Africa.

He said France's continued ties with Pretoria meant that Mitterrand and Chirac "have the blood of Dulcie September on their hands."

The French Foreign Ministry expressed its indignation at the assassination and said the government would use all its power to arrest the criminals and bring them to justice.

There were conflicting reports on whether September had asked for police protection.

The ANC treasurer in Paris said September, who had lived in the French capital since 1984, had told the police for eight months about threats, "but nothing was done."

But the Interior Ministry denied that September had asked for police protection.

Condemnation of Botswana raid

In Harare, Zimbabwe, European parliamentarians meeting to discuss ways of putting more economic pressure on South Africa Tuesday condemned Pretoria for sending troops into neighbouring Botswana and killing four people.

"This armed and bloody incursion provides further evidence of Pretoria's policy of destabilisation and destruction in the territory of its neighbours," said a statement issued by the Association of West European Parliamentarians for Action against Apartheid.

The South African military said Monday it had attacked a house on the outskirts of the Botswana capital, Gaborone, and killed four occupants, whom it described as "terrorists."

And in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, the Organisation of African Unity (OAU) Tuesday deplored as "barbaric and dastardly" the South African attack in Botswana.

"Once again the racist regime has let loose its murderous hordes into Gaborone, Botswana, killing innocent people on the spurious grounds of tracking down so-called terrorists," the 50-member organisation said in a press statement from its headquarters in Addis Ababa, the Ethiopian capital.

Manila confirms capture of NPA chief

MANILA (AP) — The military Wednesday said the country's top Communist rebel fighter was captured in a series of raids described by the president as a turning point in the battle against the insurgency.

Major-General Ramon Montano told reporters that Romulo Kintanar, commander of the Communist New People's Army (NPA), was among seven rebel leaders captured in Tuesday's raids. He said authorities did not immediately realise who Kintanar was because he initially gave a false name.

The government-run Philippine News Agency quoted another military official as saying the chairman of the Communist Party of the Philippines, Benito Tiamzon, had escaped by the time raiders arrived at his hideout in suburban Quezon City. The agency said Tiamzon must have been tipped off by radio broadcasts on the arrest of his comrades in two raids at the Manila suburb of San Juan earlier Tuesday.

The Manila Chronicle said the party leaders were believed to have been in the metropolitan area for a meeting.

Kintanar had long been wanted by the military. The alleged head of the 24,000-strong NPA, he is widely believed to be the organiser of Communist urban, assassination squads called "Sparrow Units" because of the swiftness of their attacks.

Among those arrested with Kintanar were Party Secretary-General Rafael Baylosis — the party's second-in-command — and Benjamin de Vera, the Central Committee member in charge of operations on Mindanao Island. The others were NPA Logistics Officer Napoleon Manuel; his wife Inez; Kintanar's wife Gloria; and Marco Palo, a member of the party's liaison committee.

President Corason Aquino immediately hailed the arrests as "happy news for our country" and commended the Armed Forces Chief of Staff General Renato de Villa, and other officers and enlisted men.

"It clearly demonstrates that we have turned the tide and are winning the war against the Communist insurgency," she said in a statement read by Press Secretary Teodoro Benigno.

Montano announced the capture of Kintanar when he presented the guerrilla leader and other captives to journalists at a suburban military camp where they were being held under heavy guard. The only captive not present was Baylosis, who Montano said refused to be photographed.

Montano would not let reporters ask the captives any questions. Military officials did not mention the name of Kintanar when they announced the arrests Tuesday, identifying one of those arrested as Mario Asuncion, apparently the Alias Kintanar used.

Montano told reporters that Kintanar admitted his real identity when the officer confronted the rebel later.

Dukakis rallies; Dole quits

WASHINGTON (AP) — Michael Dukakis said his "wonderful victory" in the Connecticut primary puts his Democratic presidential campaign back on track, but Jesse Jackson chalked the results up to Dukakis' regional ties, and promised more muscle-flexing in Wisconsin's primary next week.

Vice-President George Bush — who has the Republican nomination all but in hand following the withdrawal of Bob Dole — called on Republicans to "keep together and get to work," Bush, as expected, won overwhelmingly in Connecticut.

Dukakis celebrated the 2-1 victory, his first primary win since March 8's "Super Tuesday" contests, telling backers in Boston: "This sends us back to Wisconsin and Colorado with a very good boost."

Colorado's Democratic caucuses are April 4, the day before the Wisconsin primary. All the Democrats were converging on Wisconsin Wednesday.

Jackson, who has beaten Dukakis in two states in the last two weeks, congratulated the Massachusetts governor, but suggested geography and campaign finances played a key role.

"He did well in his neighbourhood state. He invested the money and the staff in the state to win," Jackson said.

Dukakis, however, insisted that his win was no less important for coming on home ground.

Dukakis and Jackson also drew similar conclusions from their different performances.

"The message ... is getting stronger and stronger every week this campaign goes on," Dukakis said.

"Our message of hope continues to expand, continues to grow," said Jackson.

With 100 per cent of the Connecticut precincts reporting, Dukakis had 58 per cent to Jackson's 28 per cent. Tennessee Senator Albert Gore Jr. trailed with 8 per cent, and Illinois Senator Paul Simon had 1 per cent.

That restored Dukakis' lead in the national delegate race. The latest AP count put Dukakis at 647.55; Jackson at 634.55 and uncommitted at 500.6. Gore had 364.8 and Simon 169.5.

Jackson, the major parties' only black candidate, swept the black vote and won about 20 per cent of the white vote, according to television network exit polls.

His share of the white vote was put at 5 per cent in 1984.

The obvious winner

On the Republican side, Dole's departure left Bush with only a nominal opponent — former television evangelist Pat Robertson, who acknowledged, "it seems obvious now that George Bush will be the winner."

As the Kansas senator bowed out Tuesday, he put aside his differences with the vice president.

"I return to the Senate as the Republican leader ... ready to do all I can to elect Republicans in November and doing all I can for our nominee, George Bush," he said. Bush beat Dole by a lopsided 71-20 margin in Connecticut.

If Dole's delegates — now uncommitted — go to Bush, the vice president is likely to clinch the delegates needed to nominate in the next few weeks.

Representative Richard Gephardt, who dropped out of the Democratic race Monday, filed Tuesday for reelection to his house seat from Missouri, saying he was somewhat relieved to have life return to a more usual pace.

Nicaragua cease-fire zones set

MANAGUA (Agencies) — Contra and Sandinista negotiators have agreed on the cease-fire areas where rebels are to begin gathering Friday, and Nicaraguan President Daniel Ortega urged the United States to discuss resuming normal relations with Nicaragua.

The negotiators identified the cease-fire zones Tuesday at the end of two days of talks in the southern outpost of Sapoa, but failed to resolve other crucial issues, including when the contra rebels will lay down their arms.

Citing the cease-fire accord signed last week by the Sandinista government and contra rebel leaders, Ortega said in a speech Tuesday the United States should begin negotiating a return to normal relations with his government.

"We hope President (Ronald) Reagan keeps his word. He has repeatedly said that the day the

reached an agreement in principle on a \$50 million non-military assistance package for the contra.

The proposal, which also would direct aid to children injured in Nicaragua's civil war, was worked out in negotiations late Tuesday.

It remained subject to approval of final details by the two sides at a meeting Wednesday.

U.S. troops leave Honduras

Meanwhile U.S. troops sent to Honduras as a show of force continued to withdraw Tuesday and an American embassy spokesman said all 3,200 should be gone within 24 hours.

The spokesman told Reuters that about 1,500 soldiers had left the Central American country since the airlift back to the United States began Monday.

Aid package But in Washington, House of Representatives negotiators

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'Dos Santos will never meet Savimbi'

LUSAKA, Zambia (AP) — The Angolan president will never meet with the leader of the Angolan rebels to end the 13-year-old civil war, the ambassador said in an interview published Tuesday.

Angolan Ambassador Luis Neto Kiambata was responding to remarks of Egyptian Foreign Minister Boutros Ghali, who said Sunday on Zambian television that Angolan President Eduardo Dos Santos was ready to talk with Jonas Savimbi, leader of the National Union for the Total Independence of Angola (UNITA).

"Mr. Dos Santos is never going to meet Savimbi," Kiambata was quoted as telling the government-owned Zambia Daily Mail.

No condoms for prisoners

prisoners

LONDON (R) — The British government rejected a call for prisoners to be given condoms as an anti-AIDS precaution on the grounds that it could encourage increased homosexual activity in jails. Health Minister Tony Newton turned down the suggestion, made by a parliamentary committee on the misuse of drugs, in a written statement to parliament. "We believe it fails to take account of all the relevant factors, including the effect which a resulting increase in homosexual activities would have in terms of risk of HIV infection," he said. The advisory committee suggested condoms be issued saying there was a danger drug abusers or former drug abusers in British prisons could spread the AIDS HIV virus by sexual activity.

Nancy receives cancer award

WASHINGTON (R) — President Reagan presented his wife Nancy, who had a breast removed in cancer surgery last year, with a "Cancer Courage" award Tuesday. The American Cancer Society award was presented in a ceremony in the White House rose garden. British-born actress Jill Ireland, who also suffered from breast cancer and wrote a best-selling novel, "Life Wish," was also honoured. "I'm very honoured to receive this award from Ronald Reagan," Mrs. Reagan said with a smile at her husband. "I can't say it's an award that I dreamed of getting when I was growing up... but that's what happens sometimes," Mrs. Reagan, 66, won praise after her breast surgery last October for her willingness to discuss her experience. After her operation, there was a surge in the number of women seeking breast cancer early-detection tests.

Exciting development

WASHINGTON (R) — The chief surgeon at the U.S. National Cancer Institute disclosed Tuesday a promising new treatment for cancer that uses potent "killer" cells mixed with a growth element called Interleukin-2. Dr. Steven Rosenberg, who gained fame for treating President Reagan for colon cancer, surprised a televised "cancer summit" between American and Soviet specialists by revealing the still-unpublished results of new trials on patients with incurable melanoma, a form of skin cancer. "We have now treated nine patients with advanced melanoma and have seen evidence of substantial regression (of cancer) in eight of these nine patients," he said. He described the new therapy as being in its infancy, but other researchers at the conference called it an exciting development.

U.S., Noriega trade charges

WASHINGTON (R) — The Reagan administration said its patience with General Manuel Antonio Noriega was running out and Panama's embattled ruler charged that the U.S. campaign to oust him was part of an Iran-contra coverup.

The White House emphasised that its sharp language did not foretell plans to remove Noriega from power by military means, but Panama's de facto ruler said a U.S. invasion was imminent.

And a diplomat loyal to ousted President Eric Delvalle said the

forceful removal of Panama's military ruler by U.S. commandos might be the only solution for his country's political crisis.

Catholic Archbishop Marcos McGrath, meanwhile, offered to act as a mediator in talks to resolve the country's nine-month political crisis.

The streets of Panama City were quiet Tuesday, a day after riot police violently dispersed anti-government marchers and raided a hotel where Noriega opponents were to hold a press conference, beating and detain-

ing activists and journalists.

The government apologised for its treatment of the press, all of whom were released. National Civic Crusade organisers said many of their sympathisers were still under arrest as a country-wide general strike entered its ninth day.

In another development, owners of Panama's three main supermarket chains said they would re-open Wednesday, suggesting the strike may be near an end.

Sources close to the supermarket owners said their decision was taken in response to "pressures" which they did not specify.

'Another Vietnam in Panama'

Noriega Tuesday told a conference of regional leftist parties he would not succumb to pressure, which he said had cost the United States \$70 million.

"They are trying to sell a fictitious situation in order to justify another Vietnam in Panama," Noriega told a crowd of about 500 cheering sympathisers.

Montano announced the capture of Kintanar when he presented the guerrilla leader and other captives to journalists at a suburban military camp where they were being held under heavy guard. The only captive not present was Baylosis, who Montano said refused to be photographed.

Montano would not let reporters ask the captives any questions. Military officials did not mention the name of Kintanar when they announced the arrests Tuesday, identifying one of those arrested as Mario Asuncion, apparently the Alias Kintanar used.

Montano told reporters that Kintanar admitted his real identity when the officer confronted the rebel later.



TELECOMMUNICATIONS CORPORATION

TENDER NO. TCC 1/88

SUPPLY OF HEAVY MATERIALS FOR LOCAL LINE PLANT PROJECTS

SECOND NOTICE

The Telecommunications Corporation of the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan (TCC), Pursuant to Notice of Feb. 11, 1988 for postponement of the tender invitation, now hereby announces Tender No. TCC 1/88 for the supply of Heavy Materials for Local Line Plant Projects such as cables, wooden poles, P.V.C. pipes, manhole covers and dropwire, as part of the Implementation Programme of the "Five Year Development Plan" for the expansion of the Telephone Network in Jordan.

The Government of the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan has applied for a loan from the World Bank and intends to use the proceeds of this loan to finance part of the cost of the Projects for which this invitation to bid is issued. As the available World Bank financing is insufficient to cover all the cost of this procurement, bidders are invited to submit in addition to the bid price a Financing Offer, at their option, to finance the contract cost or part of it.

All interested manufacturers/suppliers from the World Bank member countries, Switzerland, and Taiwan-China are invited to participate in this Tender in accordance with the terms, stipulations and technical specifications contained in the Bidding Documents.

Bidding Documents may be obtained from the office of the Secretary of the Tender Committee, P.O. Box 1689, Telecommunications Corporation, Amman - Jordan, as of Saturday, April 2, 1988 against a payment of a non-refundable fee of one hundred Jordanian Dinars (J.D. 100).

Bids, accompanied by a Bid Security, are to be submitted in English to the office of the Secretary of Tender Committee not later than 12:00 noon local time on Tuesday, June 7, 1988.

Director General
Eng. Mohammad Shahid Ismail



TELECOMMUNICATIONS CORPORATION

TENDER NO. TCC 2/88

SUPPLY OF LOCAL LINE PLANT SERVICES AND ACCESSORIES

SECOND NOTICE

The Telecommunications Corporation of the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan (TCC), Pursuant to Notice of Feb. 11, 1988 for postponement of the tender invitation, now hereby announces Tender No. TCC 2/88 for the Supply of Local Line Plant Services and Accessories as part of the Implementation Programme of the "Five Year Development Plan" for the expansion of the Telephone Network in Jordan.

Specialised companies are hereby invited to submit their bids in accordance with the terms, stipulations and technical specifications contained in the Bidding Documents.

Bidders are requested to submit in addition to bid price a financing proposal to finance the foreign exchange component of the cost of the subsequent contract to be awarded.

Bidding Documents may be obtained from the office of the Secretary of the Tender Committee, Telecommunications Corporation, P.O. Box 1689, Amman - Jordan, as of Saturday, April 2, 1988 against a payment of a non-refundable fee of five hundred Jordanian Dinars (J.D. 500).

Bids, accompanied by a Bid Security, are to be submitted in English to the office of the Secretary of the Tender Committee not later than 12:00 noon local time on Monday, July 11, 1988.

Director General
Eng. Mohammad Shahid Ismail

WORLD NEWS BRIEFS

Warsaw Pact foreign ministers meet

VIENNA (AP) — Warsaw Pact foreign ministers Tuesday discussed curbs on armed forces and conventional weapons in the East and West, the BTA news agency reported. The official Bulgarian news agency said the foreign ministers of the seven Warsaw Pact nations also discussed "concrete ways for reduction of tension, for strengthening of security and development of the relations and cooperation in the southern and northern directions of Europe." Attending the meeting in Sofia, Bulgaria, were foreign ministers of Bulgaria, Hungary, Czechoslovakia, Poland, East Germany, Romania and the Soviet Union, the report said.

Indonesia launches 3 rockets

JAKARTA (R) — Indonesia, edging tentatively into the space race, launched three experimental solid fuel rockets Tuesday, the National Institute of Aeronautics and Space (NASA) announced Wednesday. It was Indonesia's first launch of a two-stage rocket, and also its first guided rocket, according to Institute Secretary Aris Fonda. The official Antara news agency, in a report from the launch site near the Java City of Bandung, said the three rockets failed to reach the targeted height, but all functioned well during their brief flights.

House okays abducted children bill

WASHINGTON (AP) — The House of Representatives approved a bill Monday that would make it easier for a parent to recover a child who is abducted and taken to a foreign country, often by the other parent. The measure, passed by voice vote and sent to the Senate, would enable the U.S. government to implement an international treaty intended to overcome complex, time-consuming legal issues blocking the prompt return of abducted children from a foreign country. The United States signed the treaty in 1981. Although it was approved by the Senate in October 1986, the United States has not ratified the pact because the State Department said implementing legislation was needed first. The treaty provides for the prompt return of children abducted from their country or wrongfully kept in a foreign country, and provides for visitation rights across international borders. The bill provides for accelerated procedures by the courts of nine foreign countries that have ratified the treaty for returning abducted children to their U.S. parents. The bill would direct state courts, when petitioned by foreign parents, to order children returned to their habitual residence abroad, even if there is no legal order establishing custody.

U.N. agencies join forces against AIDS

UNITED NATIONS (R) — In a bid to strengthen the world-wide fight against AIDS, the World Health Organisation (WHO) signed an agreement Tuesday with a U.N. development group which has staff members in 112 countries. The agreement between WHO and the U.N. Development Programme (UNDP), which deals with a wide range of government departments in each country, will help develop nationwide programmes for tackling Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome (AIDS). The accord was signed at a news conference by WHO Director-General Halldan Mahler and UNDP Administrator William Draper. Mahler described AIDS as not just a health problem but one with political, social, economic and cultural ramifications. WHO spent \$24 million on AIDS control and prevention in 1987 and has estimated it will spend \$66.2 million this year. UNDP has committed more than \$3.5 million to the fight.

Jet crashes by nuclear plant

LANDSHUT, West Germany (R) — A French fighter jet crashed next to a West German nuclear power complex Wednesday after colliding with another plane, police and military officials said. French Air Force officials said one pilot was killed when two Mirage aircraft hit each other during low-flying manoeuvres over Bavaria. One of the planes fell to the ground within 1.5 kilometre of the large Olu nuclear energy complex northeast of Munich. The complex has three plants in operation. The second jet was able to return to its base in the French border city of Strasbourg, French officials said. An investigation has been started.

INF coalition falls apart

WASHINGTON (R) — Supporters of the new U.S.-Soviet missile treaty split largely along party lines Tuesday as the Senate Foreign Relations Committee approved a condition to give Congress a voice if a future administration reinterprets the pact. Democrats and Republicans argued bitterly before the panel voted 12-6 to attach the condition to the treaty ratification resolution. It is due to send the treaty to the full Senate Wednesday. The Democratic-sponsored condition stemmed from the Reagan administration's controversial 1986 reinterpretation of the 1972 Anti-Ballistic Missile (ABM) treaty that it said allowed more aggressive research into President Reagan's Star Wars programme. The condition said no administration could adopt an interpretation of the Intermediate Nuclear Forces (INF) treaty different from the common understanding held now by the Senate and the administration unless the Senate consented.